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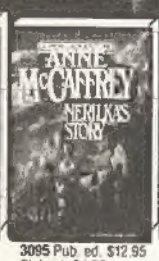

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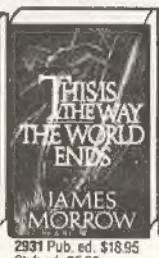

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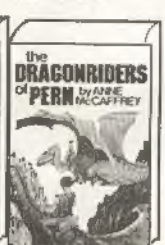

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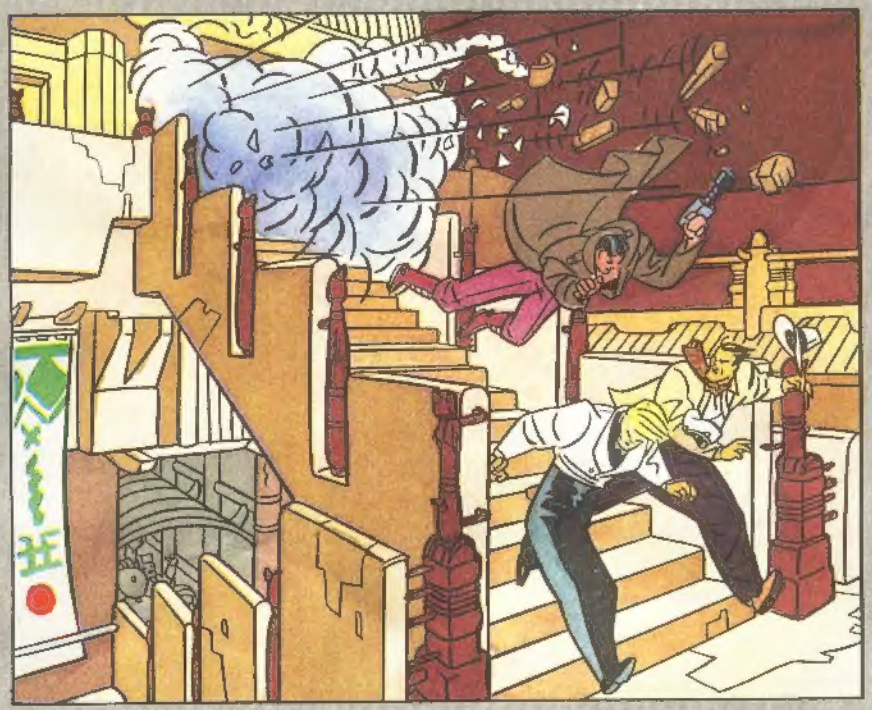

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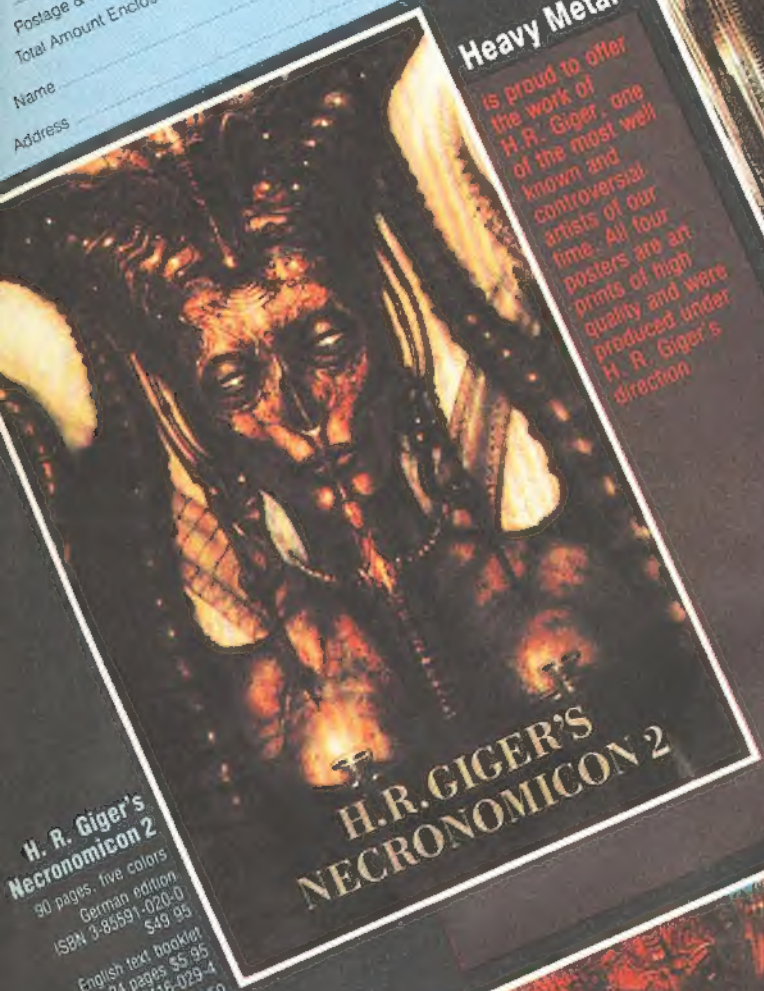

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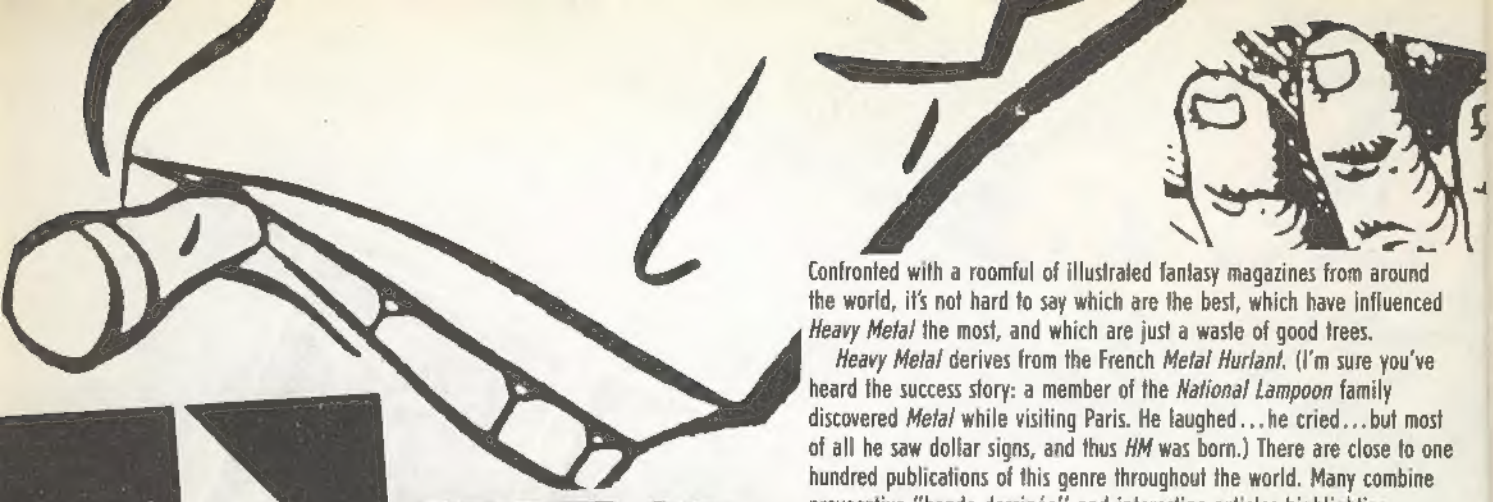

Confronted with a roomful of illustrated fantasy magazines from around the world, it's not hard to say which are the best, which have influenced *Heavy Metal* the most, and which are just a waste of good trees.

Heavy Metal derives from the French *Metal Hurlant*. (I'm sure you've heard the success story: a member of the *National Lampoon* family discovered *Metal* while visiting Paris. He laughed...he cried...but most of all he saw dollar signs, and thus *HM* was born.) There are close to one hundred publications of this genre throughout the world. Many combine provocative "bande dessinée" and interesting articles highlighting pop culture.

It is no secret that we rely on a number of these magazines to discover new and exciting artists and writers. This outlet, coupled with America's finest (Drew Friedman, Richard Corben, Paul Kirchner, etc.), has made *Heavy Metal* the most widely read fantasy magazine in the world. This issue marks one year since *HM* was changed from a monthly to a quarterly. By publishing less frequently, we are able to use more rousing material, making this a forum which reflects the mood of the industry throughout the world.

Metal Hurlant is one of the original BD magazines and is responsible for the European success of Moebius, Druillet, Claveloux, Nicollet, and others. Their witty editorial stance is diluted by their inconsistency, but through the years they have often been the best that Europe has to offer.

Pilote (France) is similar in nature to *Metal*. Through *Pilote* we have found Bilal, Caza, and Serpieri, making them an integral part of the field. *Alter Alter* and *Frigidaire*, both Italian, are smaller, less showy, and much more irreverent than the others. Massimo Ghini, Sesar, and Liberatore have sprung from their pages. Both of these magazines have a slight edge on the rest in that they're willing to take chances, and although they sometimes fall flat on their collective faces, they should be hailed for their originality.

1994 and *Cimoc* (Spain) are the most consistent of the lot—not that this is always a good trait, for who wants a magazine that's predictable—and for years we have bought our more mainstream strips from them. Lately they seem to have caught up with the eighties, running artists like Das Pastoras, Daniel Torres, and Miguel Angel Prado.

So there you have it—the recipe for *Heavy Metal*. The best that Europe and America has to offer. I've received a lot of letters asking, "Why haven't I heard of some of these artists before? Are they from another planet, or what?" No, dear readers, the artists that paint the pages of *Heavy Metal* are from this planet, just another world.

—Ed.

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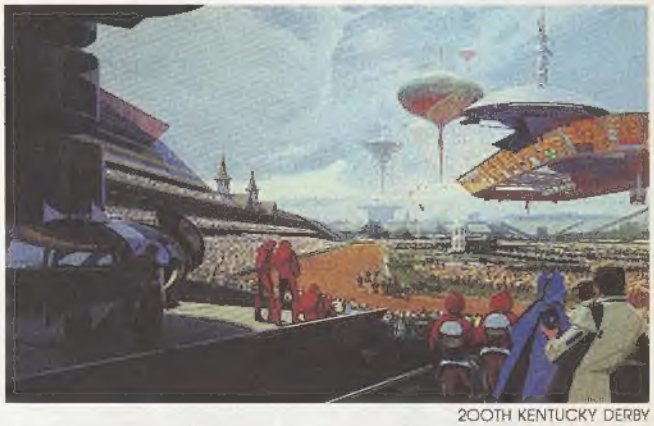

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The Cyberpunks Reinvent Science Fiction

by Daniel Riche

For the past ten years, science fiction has meandered along, often repetitive, boring, and banal. SF's staunchest defenders turned their backs on the genre, and the classics remained gathering dust on library shelves. But seemingly, out of nowhere, a new wave of authors has cropped up throughout the US. Young, knowledgeable, funny and mean, they've reinvented the product. The name they have chosen for themselves flaps in the air like a banner: *Cyber* for "cybernetics," a word which doesn't mean very much, but brings to mind the most advanced technologies and the green light of the computer screen; and *punks* because their style echoes that kind of rock music.

Cyberpunks. The term was coined, originally, by Gardner Dozois, an American writer, in an attempt to describe the work of William Gibson, whose novel, *Neuromancer*, was a great hit, winning three respected awards: the Hugo, the Nebula and the Philip K. Dick Award. The term was so successful that both William Gibson and many other authors, whose works were published in the last few years, claimed it for themselves. There is also a second Cyberpunk wave consisting of such writers as Jack Dann, John Shirley and Kim Stanley Robinson, amongst others. With its technologic and provocative connotations, *cyberpunk* faithfully expresses the new authors' ambitions. Their texts are fast, incisive, ironic and disconcerting, and relate time, reality, and changes that are being wrought in the present by new technologies and computer science.

Gone are the Galactic Empires, and consequently, the aggressive aliens and confused ETs. They are replaced by a universe of synthesis, both precise and sardonic, full of telematic pirates, peripheral cyborgs and worlds that oscillate between laughter and frenzy, luck and amnesia, action and entropy. What better way is there to present these giants of this new and insolent fiction than letting them talk about their worlds.

GREG BEAR (*Blood Music* and *Eon*)

"I think that the term cyberpunk is an abomination and I don't recognize myself in that movement. The cyberpunks are revolutionary only in name, all they really care about is selling as many of their books as they can.... People like Gibson, Rucker and Sterling have a sensitivity which is much more European than mine. I feel much more American than they are, in the sense that I think I'm more egalitarian and more open in my options and choices.... Our perception of science and technology has changed a lot since a few years back. Science has become a major cultural success, a form of art, in its own way.... If I had been prevented from becoming a science-fiction writer, I would have shot my brains out.... For the first time in history, with the advent of Reagan's I.D.S., science fiction has really had an impact on world politics, because I.D.S. has influenced politics, even though it doesn't yet exist.... I'm not ashamed of Reagan, but he worries me.... As a Democrat, I am ill at ease when I see that the Republicans have all the good ideas."

WILLIAM GIBSON (*Neuromancer* and *Count Zero*)

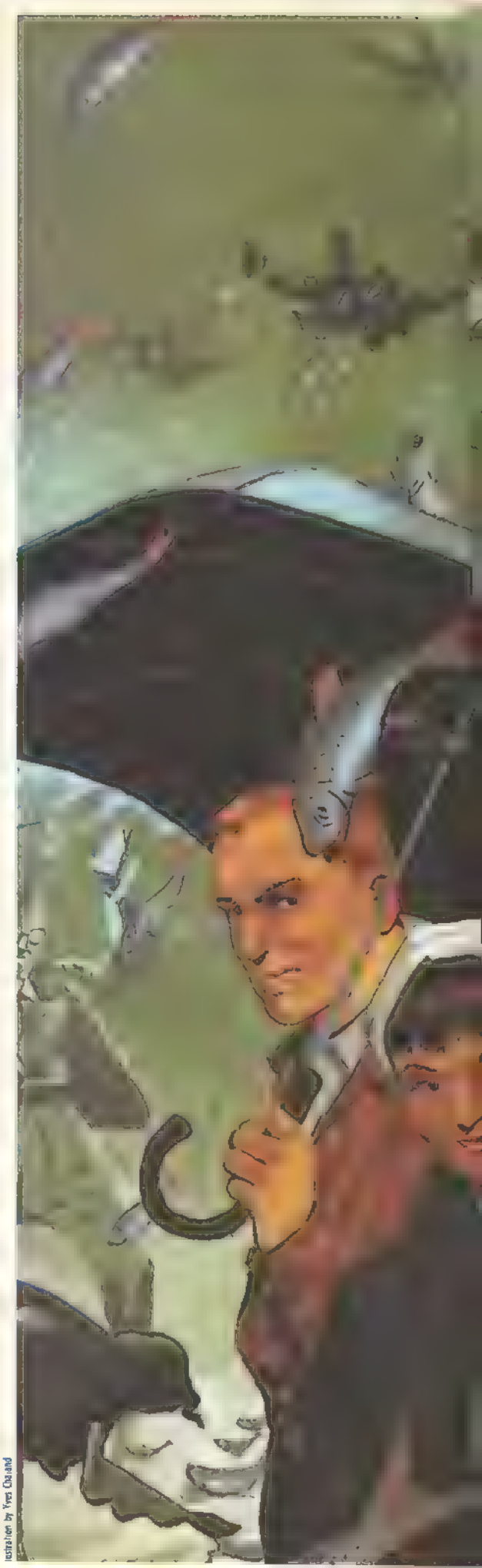
"I never studied science, but I use science and technology to conjure up new images, to create the surroundings and the atmosphere for my novels. I could say that I use scientific language in a poetic fashion. I'm a supplier of

popular icons... I have a feeling that we're living in an era of rapid changes and we don't realize what's happening. My work, consequently, consists of taking real, everyday life and transforming it into a fantasy, to make it more acceptable. In a sense, I deal more with social criticism than with future perspective.... My triple prize winning has made my existence a lot easier, but I have the impression that being widely accepted sort of neutralizes us one-time "angry young men." I don't think, however, that success has corrupted me.... I don't really belong to a group or to a school of thought—I am part of the generation of people, who have no special ties, but happened to land on the publishing world all at the same time. People have made up a dozen or so words to try to define us. None has really satisfied me up 'til now."

> *"I think the term cyberpunk is an abomination and I don't recognize myself in that movement. The cyberpunks are revolutionary only in name; all they really care about is selling books."*
>
> —Greg Bear

RUDY RUCKER (*Master of Space and Time*, *The Fourth Dimension*, and *The Secret Life*, soon to be published.)

"Having studied so much science, I thought that becoming a science-fiction writer was an excellent way of taking advantage of these studies. Science fiction is a wonderful instrument with which to learn about the contemporary world.... I decided to become a writer while I was listening to a Rolling Stones concert in Buffalo, in 1975. There was so much energy at that concert, that I decided that I wanted to express something as strong as that. Since I didn't play an instrument, I decided that I would write, and write science fiction, because all the world can read that.... I've always wanted to be an avant-garde artist, and create a sort of contorted science fiction, à la William Burroughs. The science fiction which came out of the seventies is drab and depressing. In my stories and novels, I have sometimes resorted to gimmicks like flying saucers or superpowers because I find that they work a bit like



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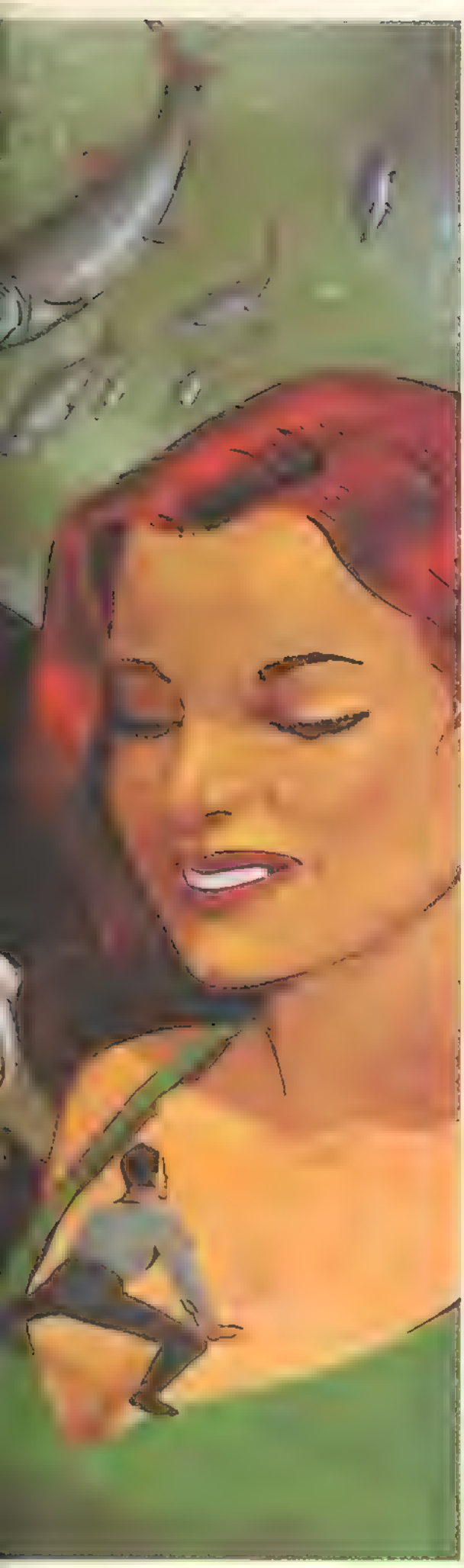

very hard to use them with a lot of humor.... There was a time when I liked to think of my work as coming from 'transrealism.' 'Transrealism' lets the writer transcend reality by means of science-fiction archetypes and end up with a concept close to the one favored by the postmoderns—the world is no more a logical space and cannot be defined in those terms. Today the world is made up of information.... The word cyberpunk doesn't bother me because it calls attention to this movement, which I think is a good one. What matters, nowadays, is to break all barriers that might come up between things and let information flow through them. This is why the term cyberpunk is interesting to me, because it brings together two concepts apparently very distant from each other, and this association produces information."

LUCIUS SHEPARD (*The Man Who Painted Griaule the Dragon, The Jaguar Hunter* and *Green Eyes*)

"I hate the term cyberpunk—I find it totally ridiculous. They've pinned it on me, but I've never had anything to do with computers. As for the cyberpunk movement, the only thing one can really say about it is that there is no ideological or stylistic unity within the group. Besides, most of the people who belong to it have a style that would frighten away just about everyone. The cyberpunks spend their time writing manifestos, but I've noticed that politics are completely absent from their work.... All this new science fiction really is, is a group of people who all know each other and spend a lot of time observing each other. And it's true that I like to know what the others are doing.... There will always be cycles in science fiction, there always have been, ever since the genre began. What is worthy of notice is that politics are starting to make a comeback, at least on the East Coast and in California. But the problem is that there is no 'cause' in the U.S. The people here just live, and couldn't care less when you tell them about what's happening in Central America....To be perfectly honest, I must say that I'm not particularly enthusiastic about science fiction. And I didn't even try to sell a story before 1983. I went to my first convention that year, and I really went because of my girlfriend. I was totally astounded because never before had I seen such an enormous number of authors completely drunk.... Speaking in political terms, one may say that American science fiction nowadays is globally centrist. Sci-

ence doesn't really interest me. When I read scientific articles or I write about science fiction, my eyes become all glassy. And I really don't know how science came to be part of my novels. Every time I have to research some scientific fact, I get depressed. I don't know any scientists, I see mostly musicians and neighbors, one of whom is a basketball player from Puerto Rico.... I'm involved in militant activities because Reagan's politics in Central America and Nicaragua make me puke—about 80% of what I write has a political theme."

BRUCE STERLING (*The Sand Whale, The Artificial Kid* and *Schismatrix.*)

"I think of myself as a 'garage band' kind of writer.... I belong to A.A.A.S. (American Asso-

> *Cyberpunks spend their time writing manifestos, but I've noticed that politics are completely absent from their work.... All this new [sf] really is, is a group of people who all know each other and spend a lot of time observing each other.*
>
> —Lucius Shepard

ciation for the Advancement of Science) and I spend most of my time reading scientific magazines from all over the world.... As J.G. Ballard used to say, we have to know how to use the contents of our waste paper baskets, because there's where we find 'invisible' literature: scientific reports, technical reports, manuals on how to utilize magnetoscopes, etc.... In the sixties, when new wave reached science fiction, the authors who belonged to the movement had only rage and anger as their weapons, and they met with a lot of resistance. When we arrived on the scene, science fiction was so decrepit that it was very easy for us to come to the fore.... Our movement is part of the post-modern movement, and within it there are two different tendencies: the cyberpunks and the humanists. The cyberpunks write mainly about high-tech, while the humanists are interested in problems pertaining to language. The post-modern movement was born in '83-'84, and it's quite schizoid, similar to all the other pop movements which preceeded it. It goes against what I call "mainstream" science fiction, that is to say, all the oldies.... Reagan

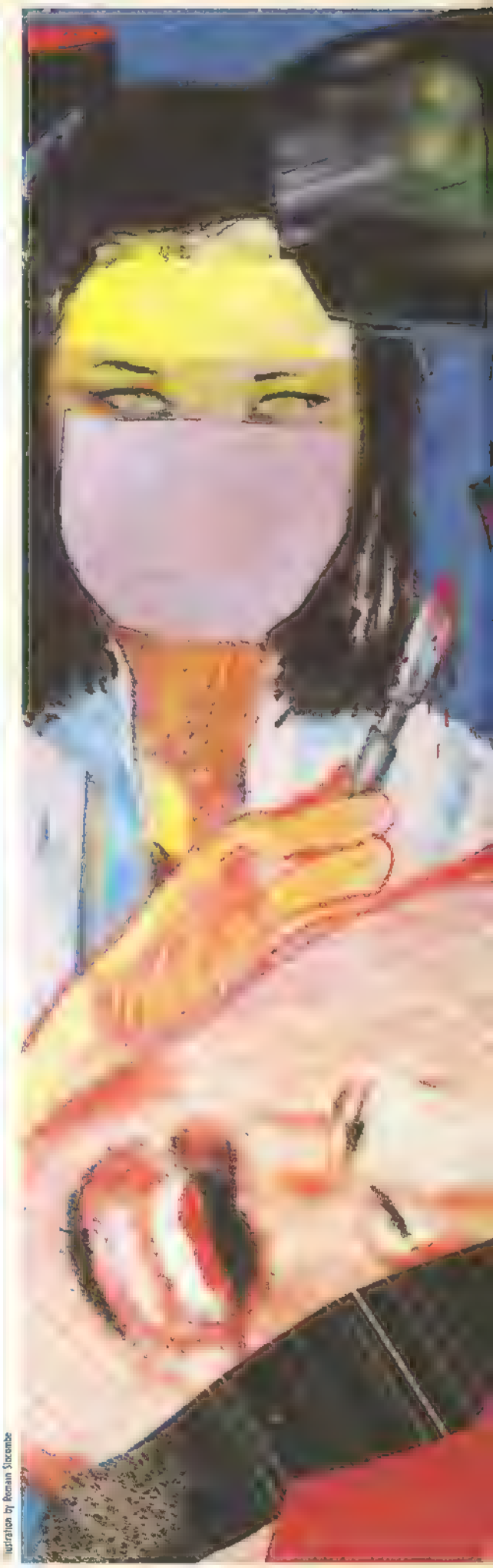

Illustration by Romain Slocombe

makes me sick. I feel ashamed of him in front of my foreign friends, especially since he came up with I.D.S. Moreover, what can you expect from a president who has learned all he knows by reading Edgar Rice Burroughs and who only has about three or four neurons still in function?.... Counter-culture's only chance for survival is to branch out as much as possible, because it's just impossible to resist the wave of high-tech which is coming toward us. The idea of a return to nature makes me puke."

MICHAEL SWANWICK (*Saint Janis Blues, In the Drift, Ginungagap,* and *The Kiss of the Masque.*)

"When our generation made itself known, the quarrel between old and new wave had come to an end, which enabled us to use the old and colorful science-fiction images and apply to them the techniques and ambitions of the new wave—because the dominant trait of our generation is ambition: the ambition to produce an honest, serious, intelligent and entertaining work.... Our predecessors in the U.S.? Delany and Zelazny .... Science fiction's greatest ambition is, in my opinion, to fight against the dominant trait of current popular literature: regionalism.... I'm a 'fringe cyberpunk,' which means I place myself between them and the 'humanists,' and I have friends in both camps.... Post-modernism is still too small a thing in science fiction to be called a movement or a school. It's really only a group of people who all know each other and write books which have nothing in common with what preceeded them.... I'm no techno-fetishist, but I find it impossible to escape, nowadays, from science and technology. I don't try to run away from it. I'm about to buy a computer.... My art was born in the sixties. I was then a sort of desperado, a freak, if you prefer, as were many of the people who belong to this movement. We fought against the Vietnam war, against the establishment, etc. But the sixties movement disappeared with Watergate. We were on our way to discover something. When I realized that we wouldn't ever get to our destination, I got out of it. And what I learned from that was that the good people are not all on one side and the bad on the other, and that western society is something much more complicated.... My life is writing. Science fiction offers me great opportunities, compared to 'mainstream,' however, if one day I find out that these opportunities are turning into obstacles, then I will start writing literature."

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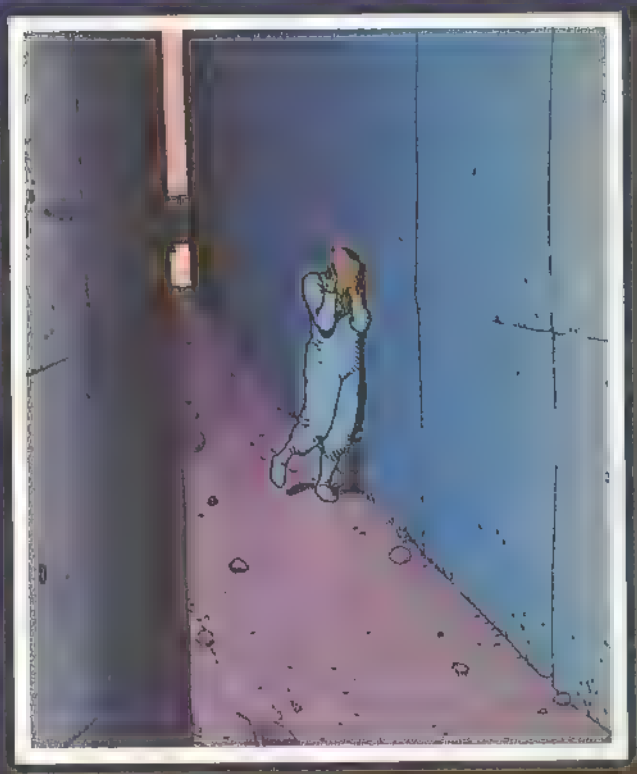

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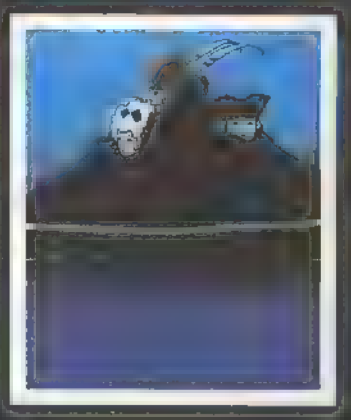

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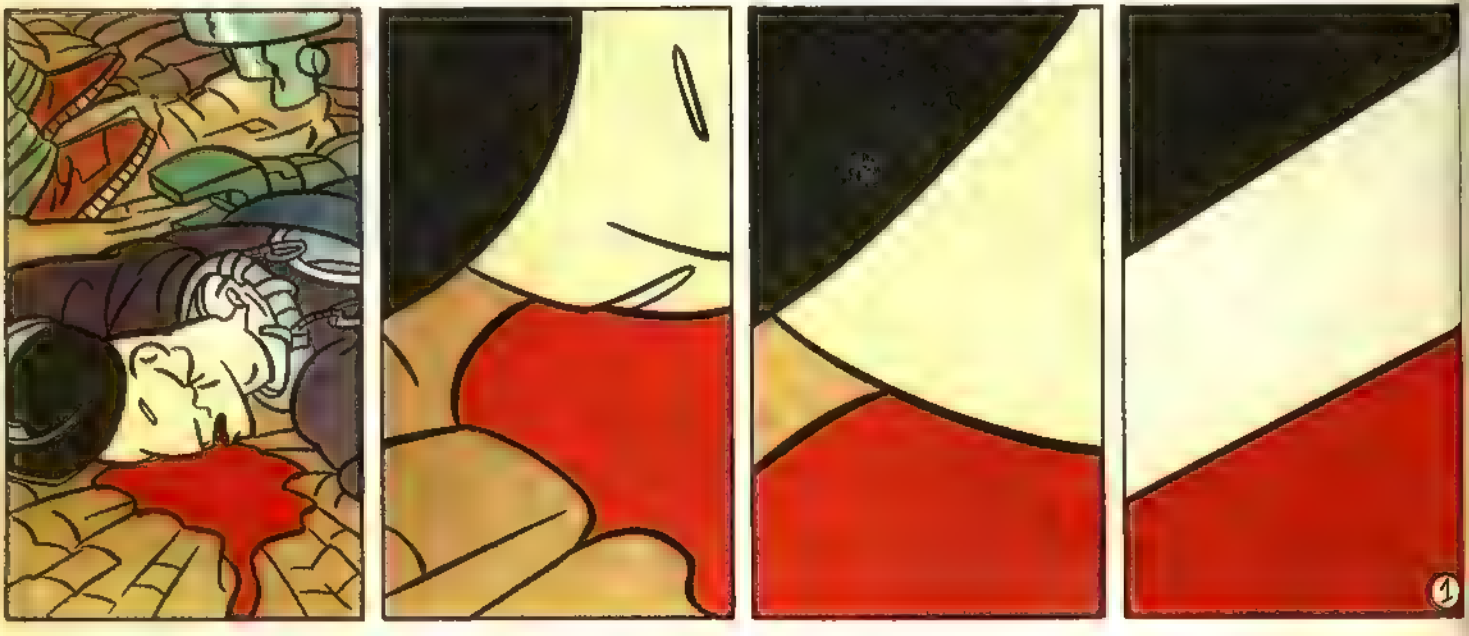
SAXXON

ARMANDO MISTRAL--ALIAS ROCO VARGAS-- ISN'T NORMALLY INTERESTED IN ANYTHING THAT MIGHT DISTURB HIS TRANQUIL EXISTENCE THE MONGO CLUB, RUBY, COSMO, HIS NOVELS, PARTY CLOTHES, AND ABUNDANT POTS OF COFFEE ARE THE PILLARS ON WHICH HIS EXISTENCE RESTS BUT THE GODS ARE UNHAPPY WITH ALL THIS PEACE, AND HAVE DECIDED THAT ARMANDO WILL HAVE TO ANSWER TO THEM IN ORDER TO KEEP HIS TITLE OF **HERO.**

BUT ONE DAY, ALONG COMES PANAMA, AN OLD COMRADE OF ROCO'S AND PART OF THE COSMIC KIDS GROUP, WHO GIVES HIM AN ATTACK OF NOSTALGIA, LEAVING HIM LONGING FOR HIS ROUGH AND RAUCOUS DAYS AS A C.K. ROCO FINDS FURTHER DISRUPTION IN THE PERSON OF SCARLET TREBOL, A CHARMING BUT MENDACIOUS YOUNG WOMAN FROM THE PLANET REA, WHO COMES TO INTERRUPT HIS PEACEFUL LITERARY LABORS ON THE ADVENTURES OF THE GREAT DETECTIVE ARCHIE COOPER

FURTHERMORE, ROCO IS INTRIGUED BY THE MYSTERY WHICH SURROUNDS A CHARACTER BY THE NAME OF "WHISPER," AND IS MORE AND MORE IRRITATED BY THE CONTINUOUS THREATS OF CHIEF OF POLICE SINO WHO DOESN'T WANT HIM NOSING AROUND. ALL OF THE ABOVE CONVINCES ROCO TO LEAVE HIS NOVEL AND START ON AN ADVENTURE. AND, AS IF ALL THIS WEREN'T ENOUGH, THE GODS, TO CONFUSE US A LITTLE MORE, HAVE ADDED THREE DISQUIETING ISSUES: 1) KROP TRAFFIC: A VERY SCARCE AND **VERY** FASHIONABLE HALLUCINOGENIC DRUG, 2) SOME CEILING FANS, WHICH EVINCE-- AS WE FIND OUT THANKS TO LINX'S (A REPORTER FROM VENUS) INVESTIGATIONS--A TENDENCY TO EXPLODE AND HEAT UP THE AIR, RATHER THAN COOL IT, AND FINALLY 3) THE COLONIAL WAR, BETWEEN VENUS AND NORTH REA

by Daniel Torres

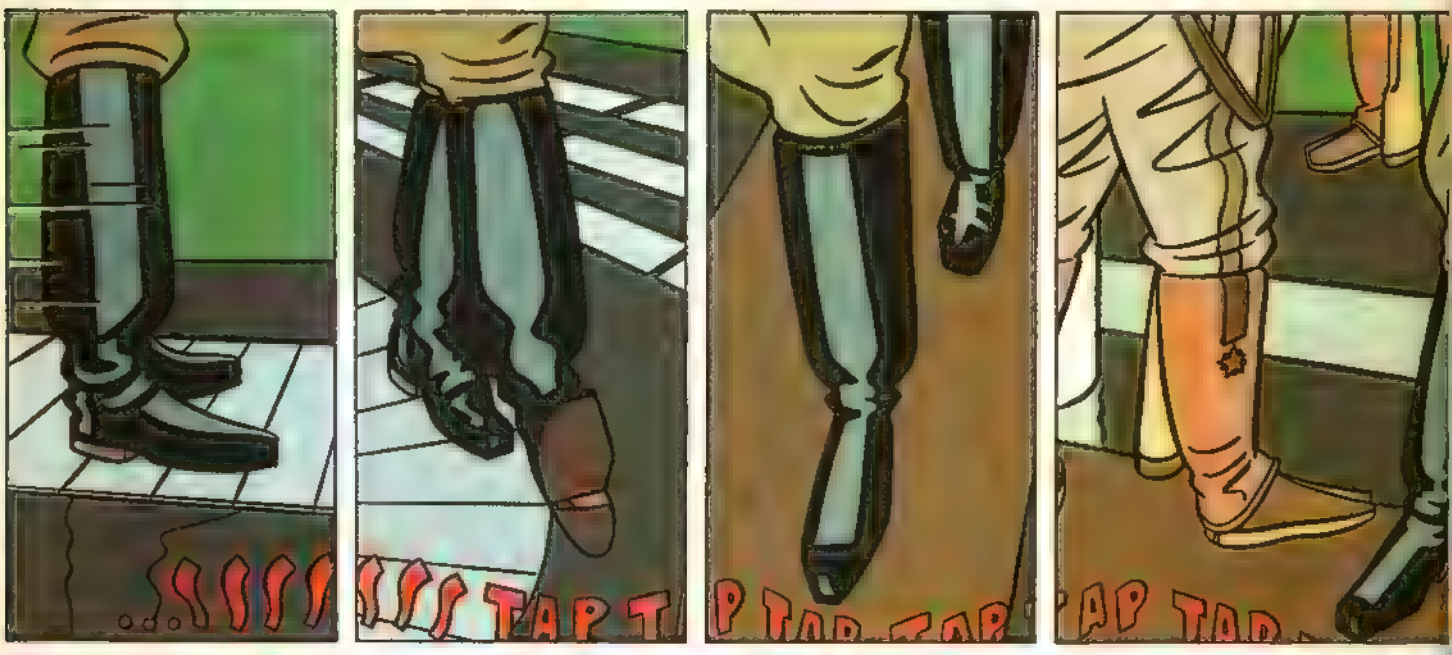


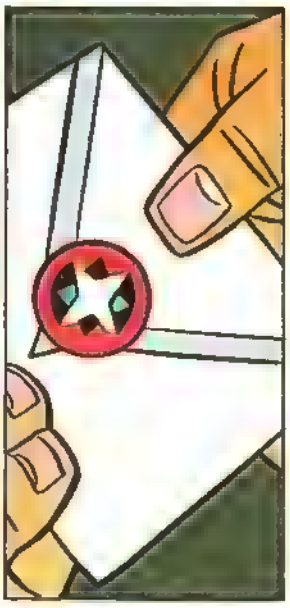
REA, A VENUSIAN DISTRICT NEAR THE FRONTIER
2

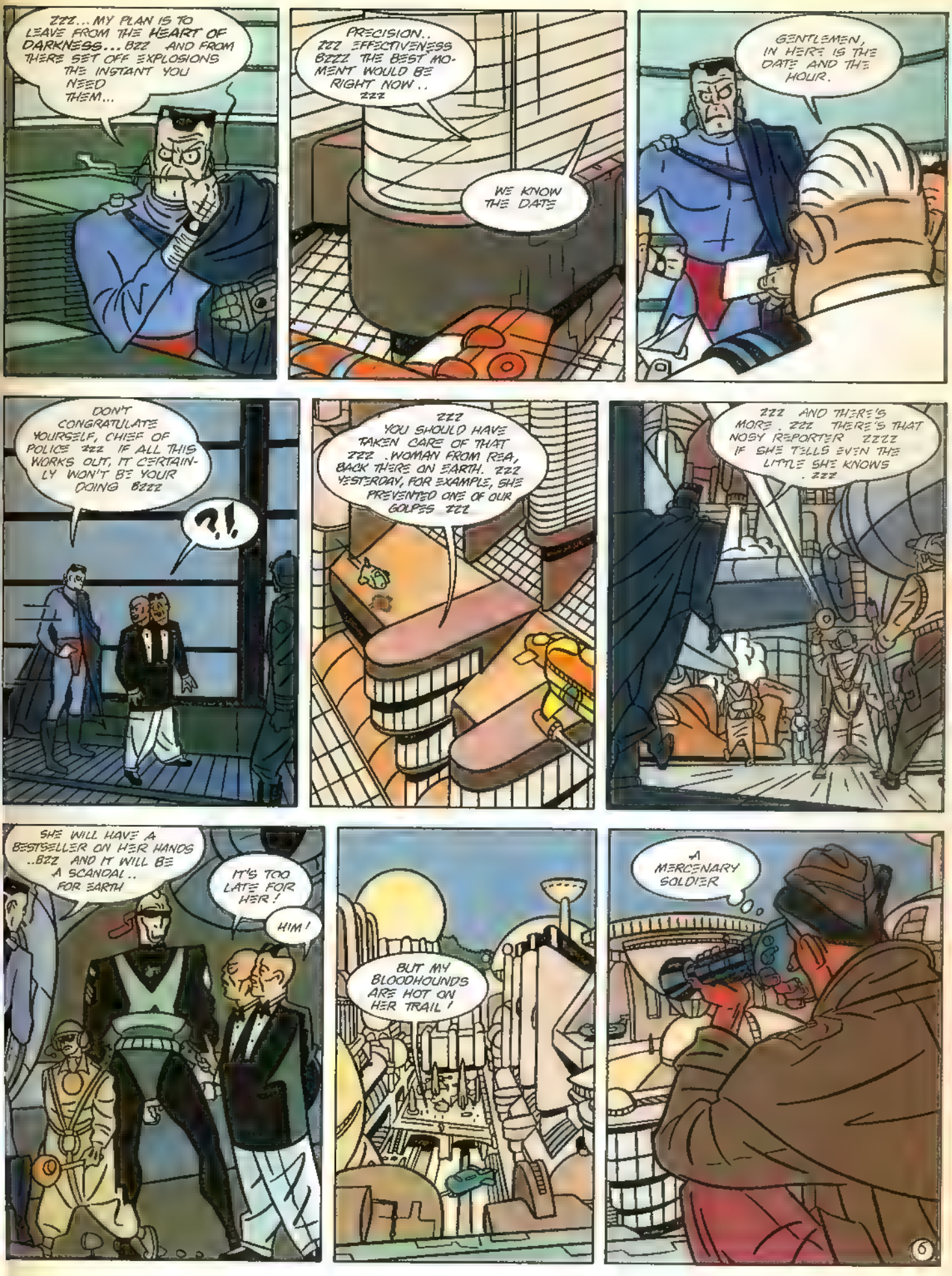
THE WHISPER!
YOU STUPID KID! YOU'RE ALWAYS LATE. HE'S IN MEGAVENUS

EARTH, A WEEK EARLIER...
THIS SMALL PLANET IS REA.
AND HERE IS MEGAVENUS.
WHAT ARE THESE BLANK SPACES ON THE MAP?
THAT'S CALLED THE HEART OF DARKNESS. IT'S WHERE THEY CULTIVATE KROP. VERY FEW HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ENTER THAT AREA
AND NOBODY HAS BEEN ABLE TO FILL IN THOSE BLANKS
IT'S A GREAT PLACE IN WHICH TO LOOK FOR A STOLEN SHIP.
RUBY, BOOK THREE TICKETS FOR TO-MORROW.
WHAT? ONLY THREE?
SURE. COSMO DOESN'T HAVE TO PAY.
4

EIGHT DAYS LATER. AT THE MILITARY COMMAND, IN THE EARTH EMBASSY, ON REA



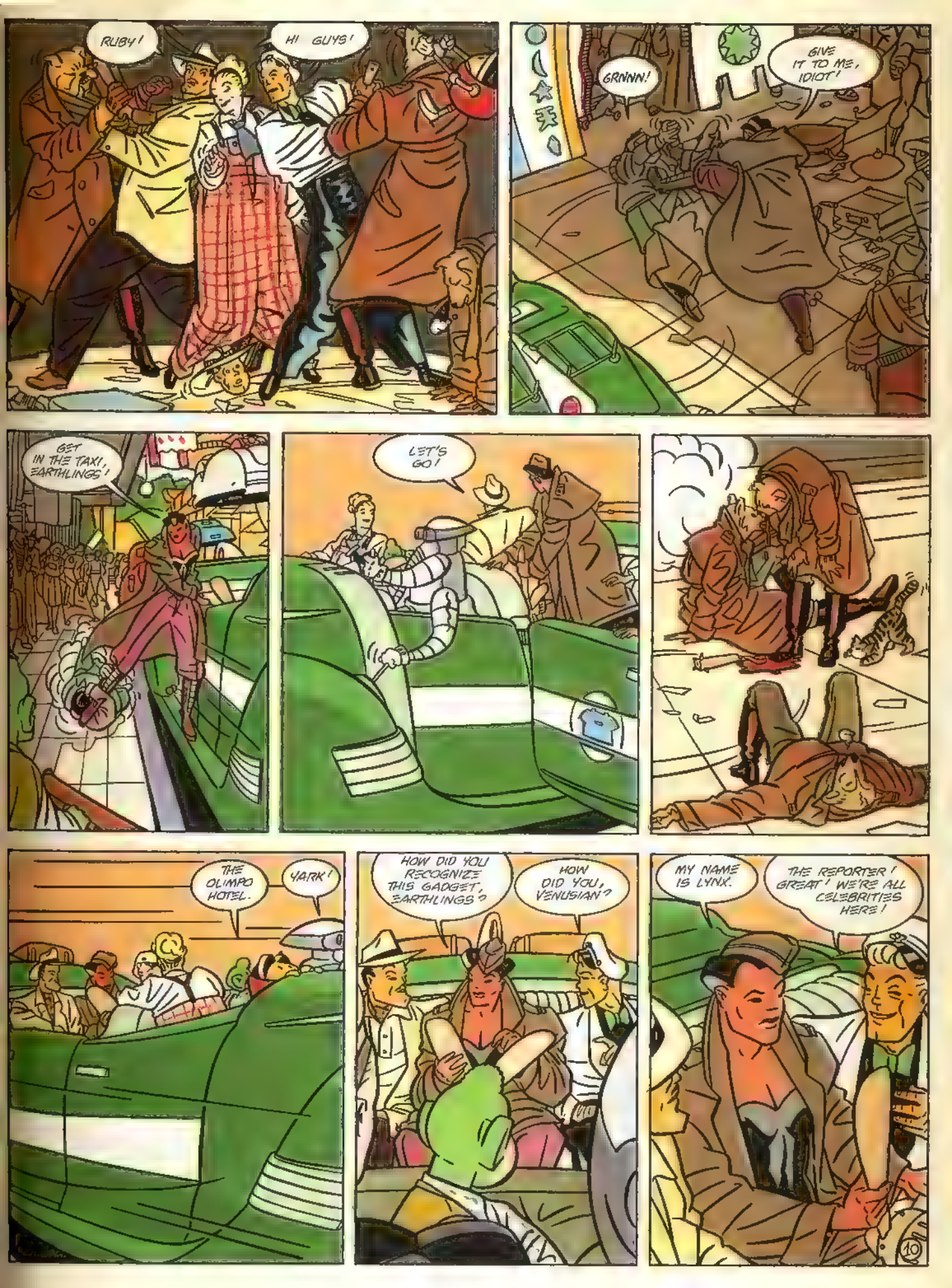



ZZZ... MY PLAN IS TO LEAVE FROM THE HEART OF DARKNESS... BZZ AND FROM THERE SET OFF EXPLOSIONS THE INSTANT YOU NEED THEM...
PRECISION.. ZZZ EFFECTIVENESS BZZZ THE BEST MOMENT WOULD BE RIGHT NOW .. ZZZ
WE KNOW THE DATE
GENTLEMEN, IN HERE IS THE DATE AND THE HOUR.
DON'T CONGRATULATE YOURSELF, CHIEF OF POLICE ZZZ IF ALL THIS WORKS OUT, IT CERTAINLY WON'T BE YOUR DOING BZZZ
?!
ZZZ YOU SHOULD HAVE TAKEN CARE OF THAT ZZZ .WOMAN FROM REA, BACK THERE ON EARTH. ZZZ YESTERDAY, FOR EXAMPLE, SHE PREVENTED ONE OF OUR GOLPES ZZZ
ZZZ AND THERE'S MORE . ZZZ THERE'S THAT NOSY REPORTER ZZZZ IF SHE TELLS EVEN THE LITTLE SHE KNOWS . ZZZ
SHE WILL HAVE A BESTSELLER ON HER HANDS ..BZZ AND IT WILL BE A SCANDAL .. FOR EARTH
IT'S TOO LATE FOR HER!
HIM!
BUT MY BLOODHOUNDS ARE HOT ON HER TRAIL!
A MERCENARY SOLDIER
6

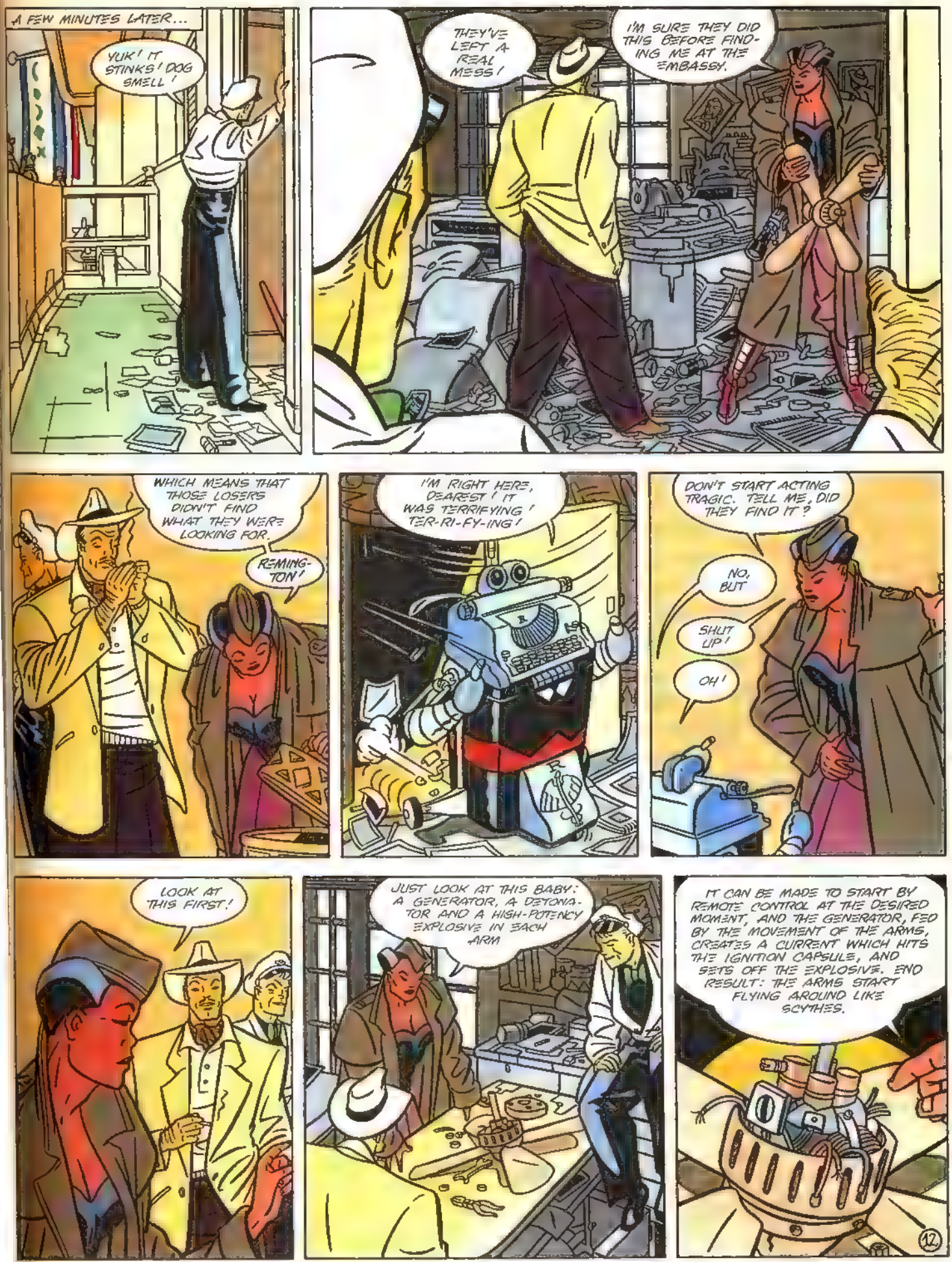
Phew! OBVIOUSLY NOT A SHUTTER-BUG!
GRRR!
GRRR!
SAVAGES!
OUCH!
GRRR! GRRR!

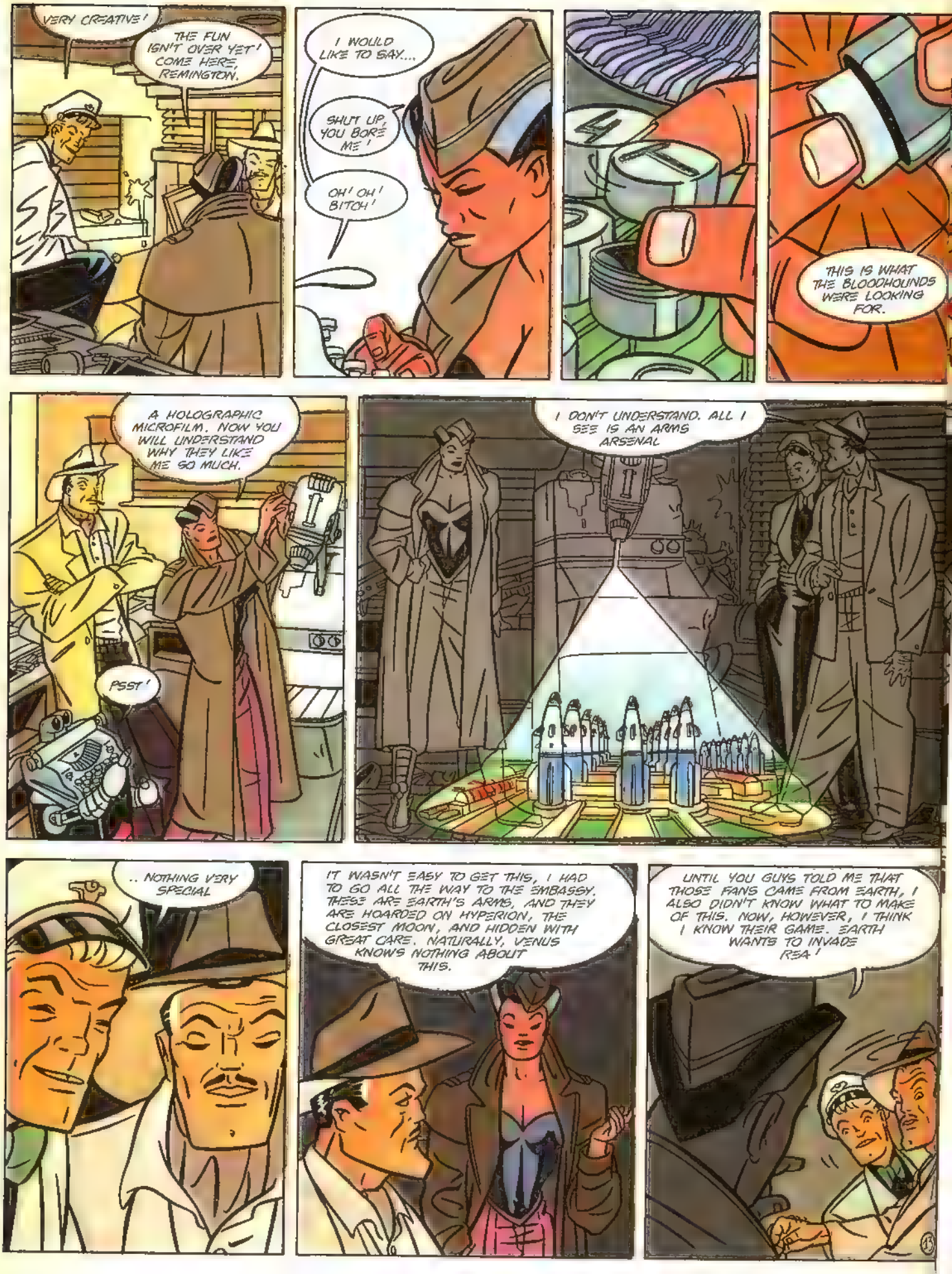
MEANWHILE, AT THE COSMOPORT ...
I LOVE THE ATMOSPHERE OF A WORLD AT WAR. IF YOU RELY ON FORMALITIES YOU NEVER GET ANYWHERE
WHAT YOU REALLY MEAN IS THAT YOU'D LIKE TO GO HAVE A FEW DRINKS. DON'T BE DEVIOUS, PANAMA. YOUR STRENGTH IS SPEED, NOT RHETORIC!
I'M TOUCHED!
8

?
SINO'S BLOOD-HOUNDS!
ROCO, LOOK WHO'S HERE!
-AUGH!
WHAT A WAY TO START A VACATION!
!
-AHHH! THE FAN!
9


RUBY!
HI GUYS!
GRNNN!
GIVE IT TO ME, IDIOT!
GET IN THE TAXI, EARTHLINGS!
LET'S GO!
THE OLIMPO HOTEL.
YARK!
HOW DID YOU RECOGNIZE THIS GADGET, EARTHLINGS?
HOW DID YOU, VENUSIAN?
MY NAME IS LYNX.
THE REPORTER! GREAT! WE'RE ALL CELEBRITIES HERE!
10

HAVE YOU MET THOSE SONS OF BITCHES BEFORE?
THEY ARE CHIEF OF POLICE SINO'S GUARDIAN ANGELS
THE GUY WITH TWO HEADS?
THAT'S HIM! WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN HIM?
AT THE EARTH EMBASSY, ALONG WITH A SINISTER TYPE WITH A MACHINE-GUN ARM
WHISPER!
.WHO?
A GUY WHO'S BROUGHT THOUSANDS OF FANS LIKE THESE TO EARTH.
WE THINK THAT HE USES THEM AS A COVER FOR TRAFFICKING KROP.
KROP!! YET ANOTHER SURPRISE DEVELOPMENT! THE OCTOPUS' TENTACLES ARE EVERYWHERE!
OLIMPO
COME TO MY PLACE, EARTHLINGS, AND I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT THESE FANS ARE REALLY FOR.
TAKE CARE OF THE ROOMS, RUBY.
ME?
BUT
OF COURSE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO. YOU'RE A YOUNG MAN NOW, AREN'T YOU?


A FEW MINUTES LATER...
YUK! IT STINKS! DOG SMELL!
THEY'VE LEFT A REAL MESS!
I'M SURE THEY DID THIS BEFORE FINDING ME AT THE EMBASSY.
WHICH MEANS THAT THOSE LOSERS DIDN'T FIND WHAT THEY WERE LOOKING FOR.
REMINGTON!
I'M RIGHT HERE, DEAREST! IT WAS TERRIFYING! TER-RI-FY-ING!
DON'T START ACTING TRAGIC. TELL ME, DID THEY FIND IT?
NO, BUT
SHUT UP!
OH!
LOOK AT THIS FIRST!
JUST LOOK AT THIS BABY: A GENERATOR, A DETONATOR AND A HIGH-POTENCY EXPLOSIVE IN EACH ARM
IT CAN BE MADE TO START BY REMOTE CONTROL AT THE DESIRED MOMENT, AND THE GENERATOR, FED BY THE MOVEMENT OF THE ARMS, CREATES A CURRENT WHICH HITS THE IGNITION CAPSULE, AND SETS OFF THE EXPLOSIVE. END RESULT: THE ARMS START FLYING AROUND LIKE SCYTHES.
12


VERY CREATIVE!
THE FUN ISN'T OVER YET! COME HERE, REMINGTON.
I WOULD LIKE TO SAY....
SHUT UP, YOU BORE ME!
OH! OH! BITCH!
THIS IS WHAT THE BLOODHOUNDS WERE LOOKING FOR.
A HOLOGRAPHIC MICROFILM. NOW YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHY THEY LIKE ME SO MUCH.
PSST!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. ALL I SEE IS AN ARMS ARSENAL
.. NOTHING VERY SPECIAL
IT WASN'T EASY TO GET THIS, I HAD TO GO ALL THE WAY TO THE EMBASSY. THESE ARE EARTH'S ARMS, AND THEY ARE HOARDED ON HYPERION, THE CLOSEST MOON, AND HIDDEN WITH GREAT CARE. NATURALLY, VENUS KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THIS.
UNTIL YOU GUYS TOLD ME THAT THOSE FANS CAME FROM EARTH, I ALSO DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF THIS. NOW, HOWEVER, I THINK I KNOW THEIR GAME. EARTH WANTS TO INVADE REA!

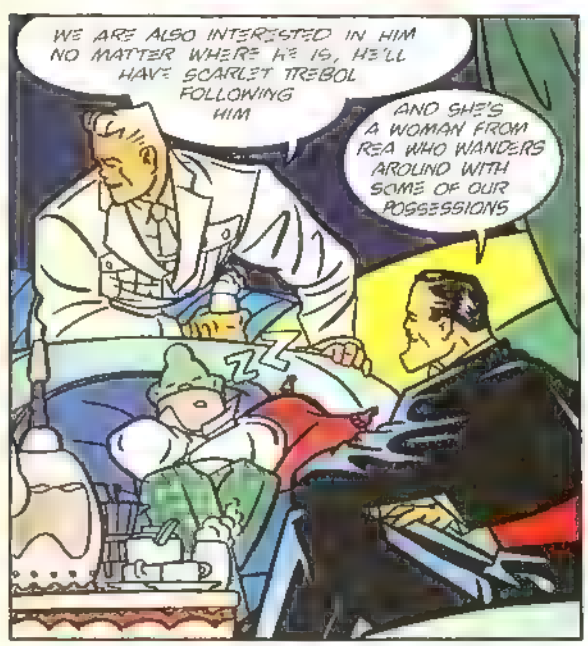
YOUR PLANET HAS NEVER HIDDEN IT'S DESIRE TO OWN THIS SATELLITE OF SATURN'S. NOW THAT VENUS HAS GOTTEN MIXED UP IN THE WAR, THE MOMENT HAS COME TO DEAL THE FINAL BLOW.
THAT'S IT. AND THEY WANT TO KEEP THEIR HANDS CLEAN, TOO. THEY'VE PUT KOO AND HIS SOLDIERS IN CHARGE-- MERCENARY AT THAT-- AND THE GUY, WHISPER, WHO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, LIKES TO DECORATE ALL OF REA WITH THOSE FANS.
WHEN THEY EXPLODE, NORTHERN REA WILL BE ACCUSED. EARTH WILL CONSIDER IT HER DUTY TO OPEN FIRE IN THE NAME OF PEACE AND ORDER.
A VERY EDIFYING STORY.
PSST! PSST! I REALLY HAVE TO TELL YOU...
SHUT UP, OR I'LL DISCONNECT YOU!
LOOK, HON, THAT SHOULD BE YOUR BIGGEST PROBLEM! THOSE DAMNED DOGS SABOTAGED ME AND I THINK'...
...I'M GOING TO EXPLODE!
ARE YOU OKAY, LYNX?
THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT HAPPENED. I'M SORRY FOR REMINGTON, HE WAS A LITTLE PRETENTIOUS, BUT HE MADE GREAT GUACAMOLE.
LET'S GO BACK TO OUR HOTEL.
14

HOW ABOUT ANOTHER ROUND OF DRINKS LET'S REALLY OVERDO IT, BEFORE BECOMING A LEGEND, BECAUSE IF YOUR PLANET BLOWS ITS FUSE, IT'S GOING TO UNLEASH A SOLAR WAR!
THANKS FOR THE PROPHESY. MAYBE I SHOULD OPEN A SUNTAN LOTION COMPANY
WILL THE EXPLOSION BE THAT BIG?

AS HOT AS THIS DRINK! SATURN WON'T LET EARTH KEEP REA
AND WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ALL THIS INFO?

I WILL WRITE COLUMNS FULL OF VENOM I LOVE A CONFLICT, AND THE ONLY THING THAT REALLY KEEPS ME GOING IS THE "TAP TAP" OF MY TYPEWRITER BUT THERE IS STILL ONE THING PUZZLING ME.
KROP

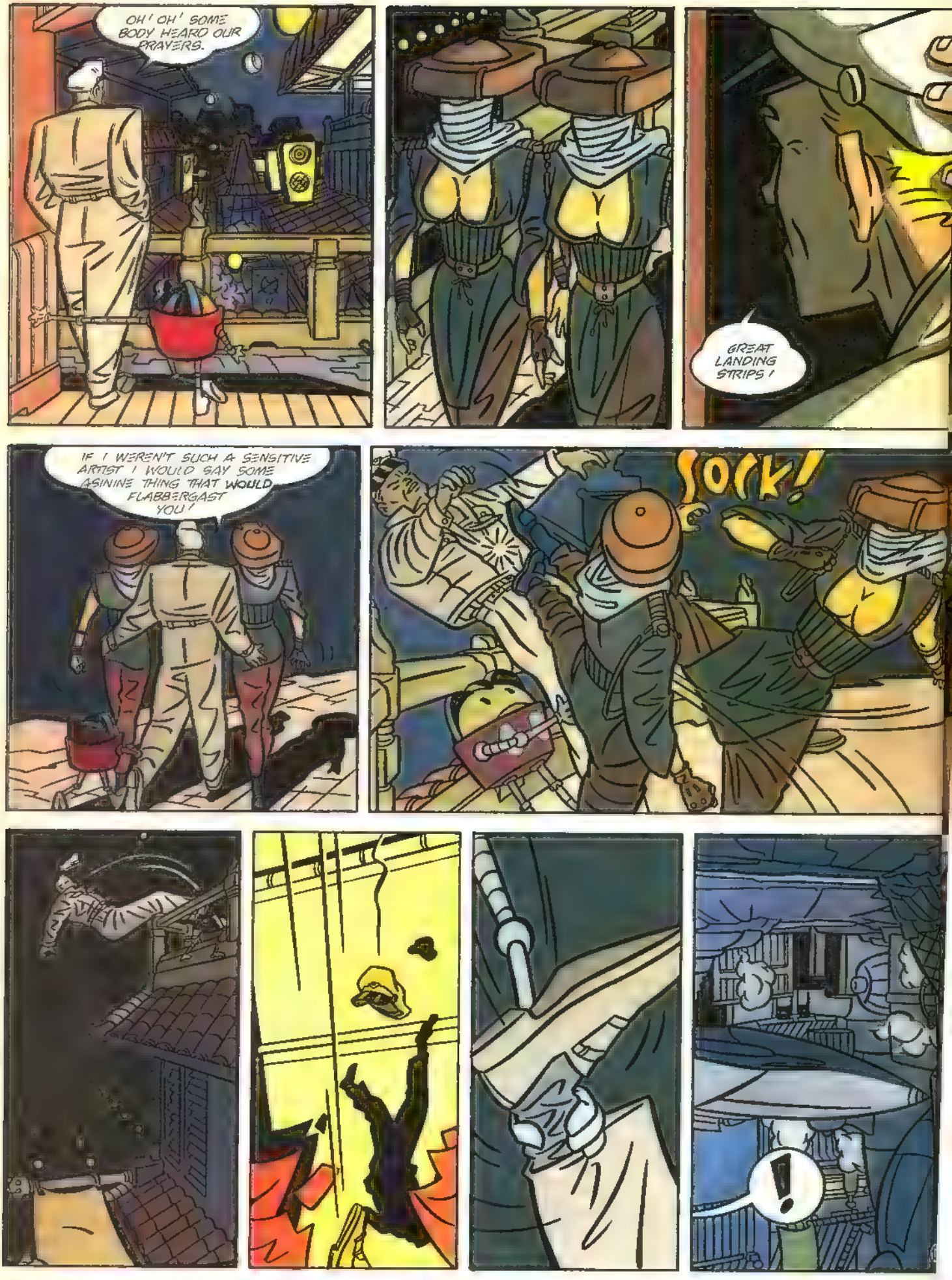
RIGHT AND I SUSPECT THAT THE WHISPER IS THE KEY


WE ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN HIM NO MATTER WHERE HE IS, HE'LL HAVE SCARLET TREBOL FOLLOWING HIM
AND SHE'S A WOMAN FROM REA WHO WANDERS AROUND WITH SOME OF OUR POSSESSIONS

I'M AFRAID THAT WE WILL HAVE TO LOOK FOR OUR GREEDY FRIEND IN THE HEART OF DARKNESS.
WELL THEN, LET'S LEAVE TOMORROW

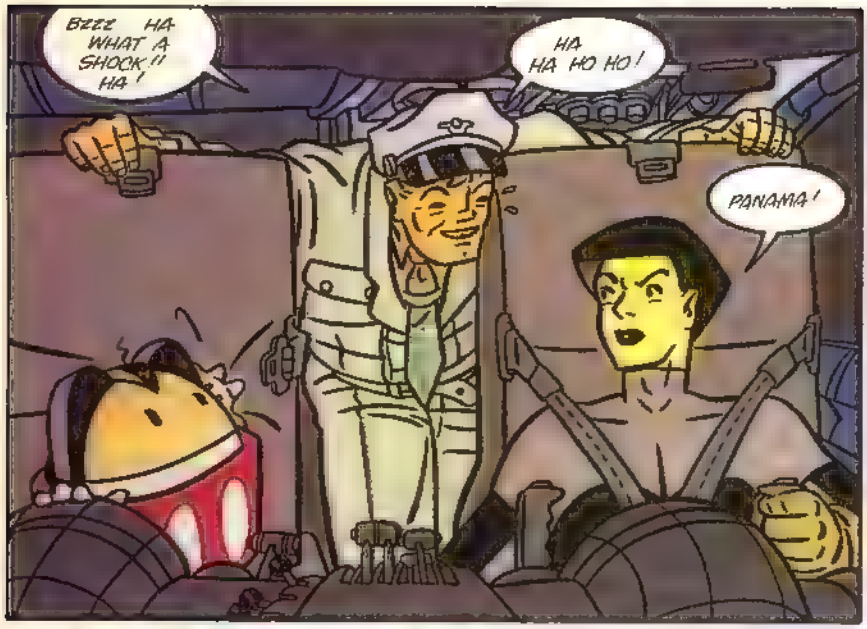
WHERE ARE WE GOING ARMANDO?

ARMANDO? ISN'T YOUR NAME ROCO?
ROCO VARGAS AND ARMANDO MISTRAL.
A REAL BARGAIN: TWO FOR ONE
WHAT DO YOU KNOW? I SPEND A WHOLE DAY WITH A GUY, ALMOST DIE WITH HIM, AND THEN I FIND OUT THAT HE'S ROCO VARGAS, THE ASTRONAUT, MY IDOL! WHY DO YOU HIDE BEHIND THE SHROUD OF ARMANDO MISTRAL, WRITER OF THOSE HORRIFIC STELLAR NOVELETTES WHICH SHOULD BE SOLD BY WEIGHT
YOU INSOLENT SLUT!
HEY!
MAYBE, IF YOU LEARNED HOW TO READ YOU WOULD ENJOY MY BOOKS-- INSTEAD YOU RUIN OUR LUNCH WITH YOUR VENOMOUS STORIES.
I'VE BOUGHT YOUR BOOKS.
. I USE THEM AS FERTILIZER FOR MY PLANTS.
WATCH IT, DEARIE, OR I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO MY KNIFE!
DON' GET UPSET, SECRETARY IN HIS DEFENSE I HAVE TO SAY THAT HE'S A VERY HANDSOME MAN!
YOU VENUSIAN BITCH! HOW DID YOU GET HERE!??
SOLD BY WEIGHT!
THOSE GUYS DON'T NEED ME OR THE FANS TO START A WAR!
LET'S GO, COSMO. LET'S SEE WHAT TONIGHT HAS TO OFFER!
16

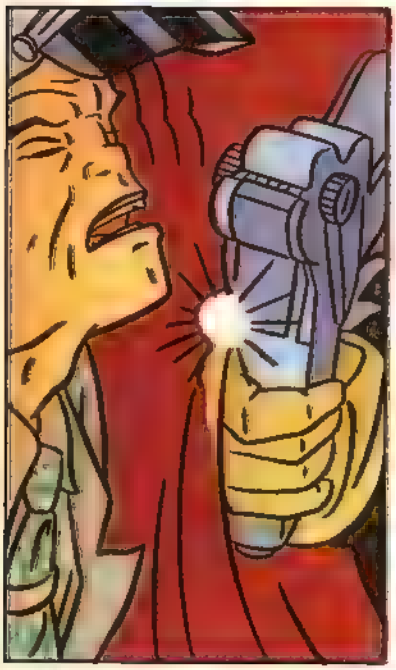

OH! OH! SOMEBODY HEARD OUR PRAYERS.
GREAT LANDING STRIPS!
IF I WEREN'T SUCH A SENSITIVE ARTIST I WOULD SAY SOME ASININE THING THAT WOULD FLABBERGAST YOU!
SOCK!
!

THE DISTANT STAR!*
WE'VE LOST TIME PLAYING THIS STUPID CAT AND MOUSE GAME WHISPER ISN'T HERE. HE SCATTERED HIS FANS ALL OVER MEGAVENUS AND HAS DISAPPEARED WITH THE DETONATOR.
DAMN! IT'S JUST AS HARD FOR ME TO FIND THAT SHAPELESS WORM IN THE KROP FIELDS, AS IT IS FOR YOU TO FIND ALL THE FANS AND DISCONNECT THEM.
SCARLET!
.BUT THAT'S OUR LAST CARD. PLAY IT WISELY.
ZZZZ GOOD EVENING. ZZZ GENERAL . ZZ
18

* 800 VARGAS'S SPACE SHIP


BZZZ HA WHAT A SHOCK!! HA!
HA HA HO HO!
PANAMA!

ARE YOU SURE? NOBODY REALLY KNOWS. I THINK AN IN DEPTH RECONAISSANCE IS NECESSARY



I'M GOING TO COOL IT WITH WOMEN FOR AWHILE

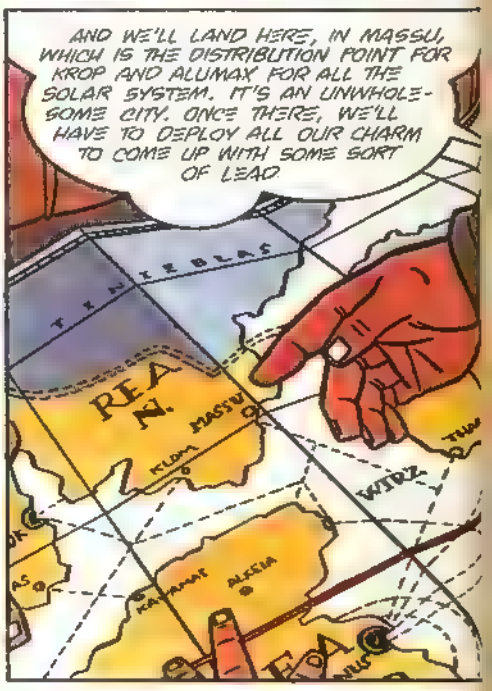
EVERY TIME I GET CLOSE TO ONE, I END UP WITH A HORRIBLE HEADACHE!

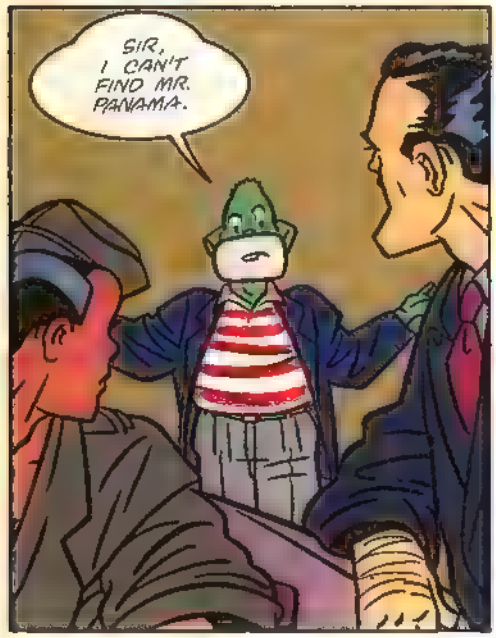
AH, HERE YOU ARE!
CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE THE HELL YOU'VE BEEN?
WIPE THAT JERKY LOOK OFF YOUR FACE. YOU KNOW VERY WELL I'M SAM NORTON, ONE OF THE CHARACTERS IN YOUR NOVELS.
TAKE OFF THAT RIDICULOUS COSTUME AND HOLD THIS EIGHTY POUNDS OF YOUR BOOKS!
YOU'RE CRAZY! THAT WILL ONLY HASTEN THE DISINTEGRATION!
COFFEE?

COFFEE, SIR?

YES, SAMSON, 80 POUNDS--I MEAN, A LOT.. AND IN A CUP.. PLEASE!

FOUR COFFEE POTS LATER ..
RING!
LOOK AT THIS, ROCO, WE'LL TAKE OFF ON THE TRINAUTIC WHICH WILL CROSS THE FRONTIER AT THIS POINT, IN THE DENSE SEA OF THE WIRZ


AND WE'LL LAND HERE, IN MASSU, WHICH IS THE DISTRIBUTION POINT FOR KROP AND ALUMAX FOR ALL THE SOLAR SYSTEM. IT'S AN UNWHOLESOME CITY. ONCE THERE, WE'LL HAVE TO DEPLOY ALL OUR CHARM TO COME UP WITH SOME SORT OF LEAD
MASSU
WIRZ
ALEXIA


SIR, I CAN'T FIND MR. PANAMA.

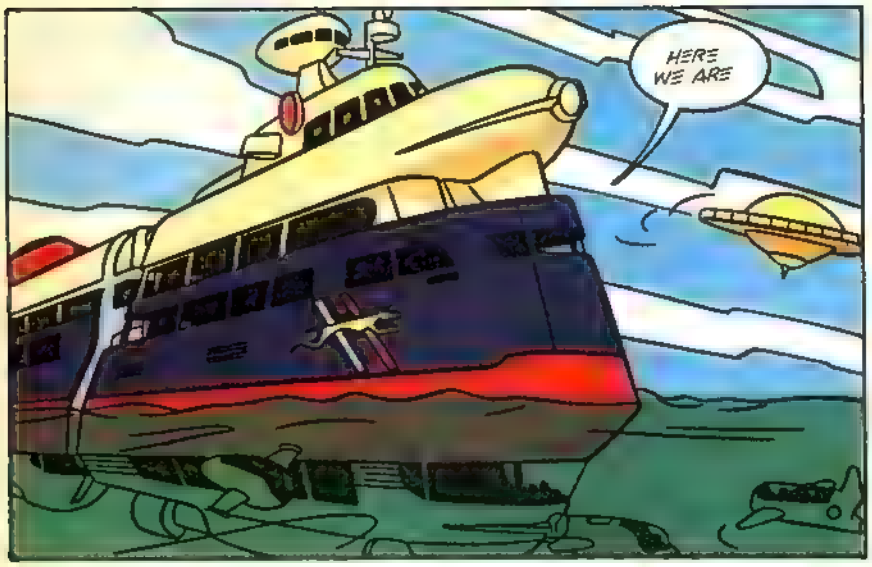
COSMO'S DISAPPEARED ALSO
I'M READY!

SOMETHING WRONG?

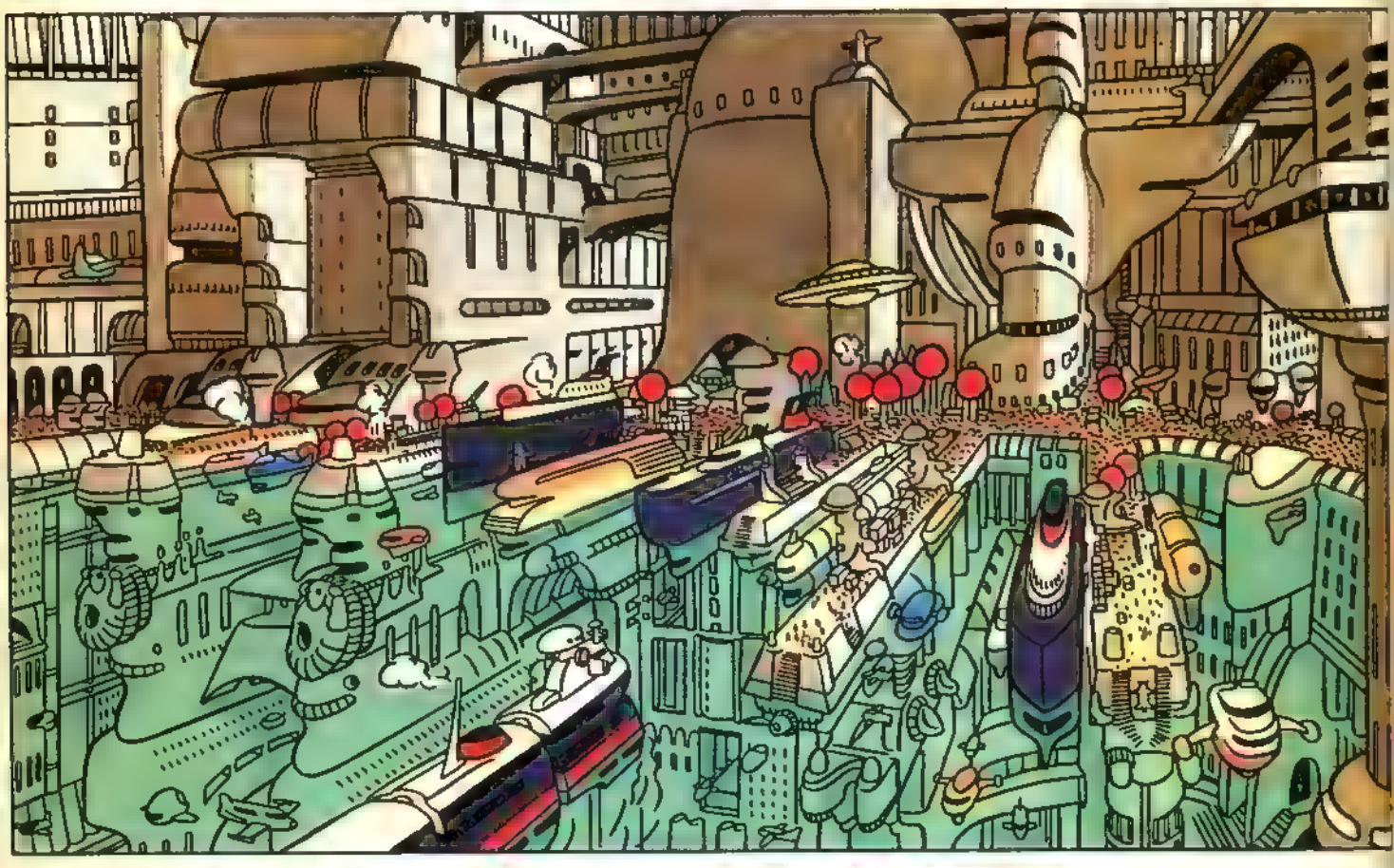
RUBY, DEAR. WE'RE NOT GOING ON A SAFARI. FURTHERMORE, YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY HERE, TO HELP PANAMA GET OVER HIS HANG-OVER!
PFFFTT!!
LET'S GO, SAMSON.
STUFFED SHIRTS!
EXCUSE ME, MA'AM. WHERE DID YOU BUY THAT CUTE AND FASHIONABLE OUTFIT?
22

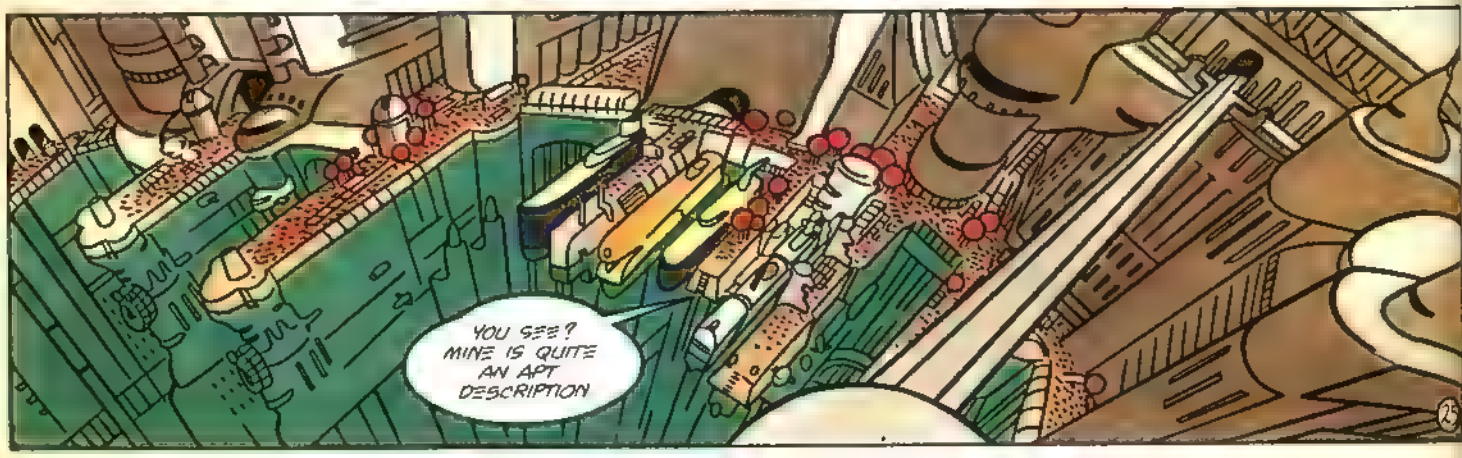
WHERE ARE WE?
WE'RE CROSSING THE HEART OF DARKNESS
HOW'S YOUR HEAD?
I DON'T KNOW--I CAN'T FIND IT.
I'M SORRY ABOUT LAST NIGHT, PAL.
DON'T FEEL TOO BAD, GENERAL. WHAT'S A HEAD BUTT BETWEEN FRIENDS?
HOW ARE ROCO AND THE REST OF THE FAMILY?
THEY'RE IN MEGAVENUS WE CAME TO REA TO TRY TO REMEMBER ALL THOSE LIES YOU TOLD US WHEN WE WERE ON EARTH.
WHY DON'T YOU SIT RIGHT HERE AND TELL ME THE REST OF THE STORY.
iiik!
23

WHAT'S THE MATTER, COSMO?
AAHHH!!!
SAKES ALIVE!
CAREFUL, WE'RE IN AN AREA OF GASEOUS TURBULENCE.
WE'RE FALLING!
GIVE ME THOSE CONTROLS!
24


HERE WE ARE

THIS IS MASSU...
.. THE HEART OF THE APOCALYPSE.

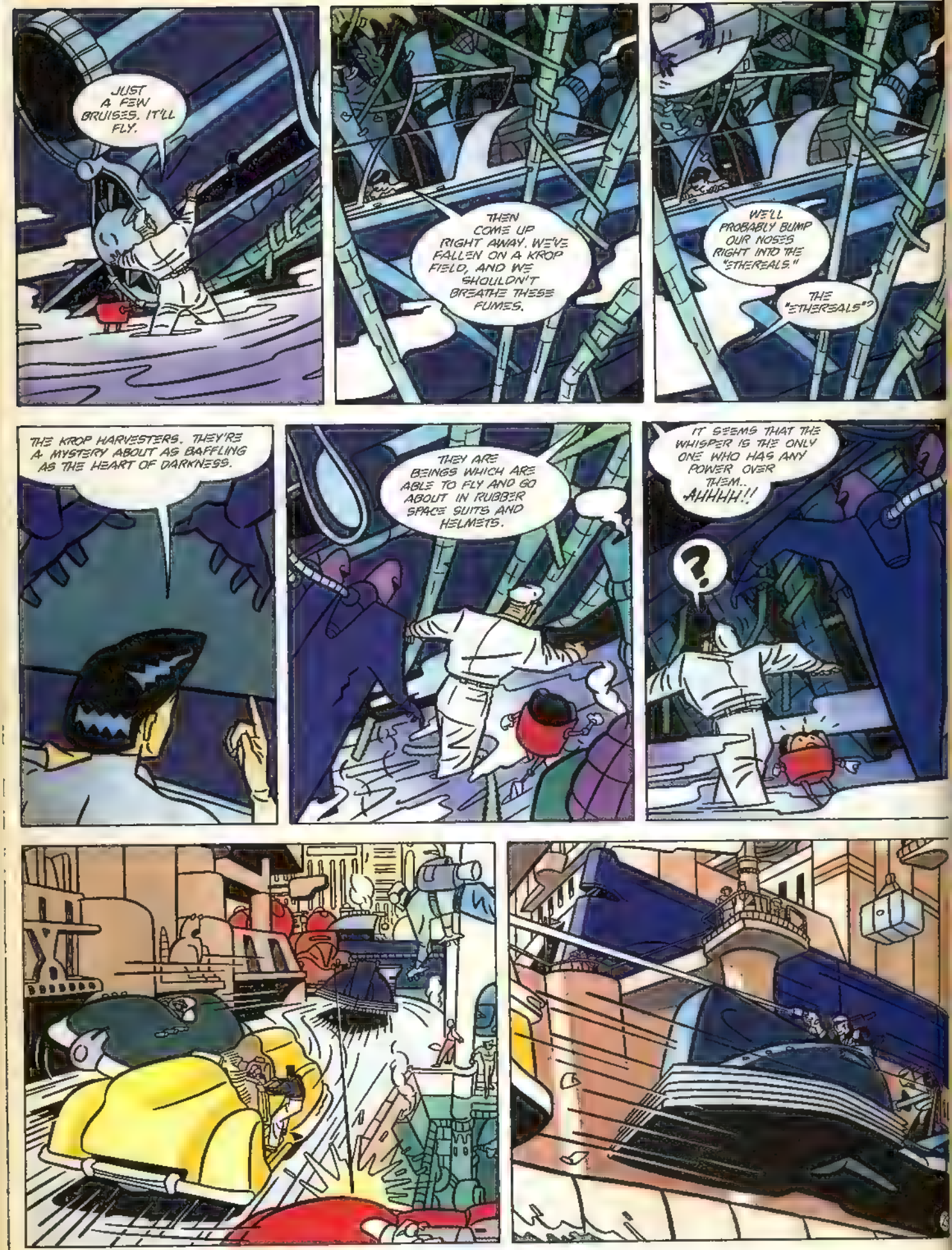



YOU SEE? MINE IS QUITE AN APT DESCRIPTION

ARE YOU ALLUDING TO THE FACT THAT IT LOOKS LIKE THE WORLD TOY FAIR?
GET LOST!
THESE ARE TURBULENT TIMES, AND THIS CITY IS BUILT ON A WEB OF INTRIGUE.
AND THEY WEAN THEIR BABIES ON GUNPOWDER
WHAT'S UNUSUAL ARE ALL THESE MERCENARY SOLDIERS WALKING UP AND DOWN AS IF THEY WERE MINDING THEIR OWN BUSINESS
KNOP
THE SOLDIERS OF THE REAN ARMY ARE GIVING THEM NASTY LOOKS
WITH THE WAR GOING ON, THE KROP MARKET MUST BE VERY LOW
...AND I'M SURE SOMEBODY HAS GREAT PLANS FOR IT.
26

GLOUC GLU-GLA, GLU UNK!
UNK?
MY, MY, MY! A MARTIAN, A VENUSIAN AND AN EARTHLING, STILL WET BEHIND THE EARS!
I KNOW, I KNOW BUT I'M SURE I COULD BEAT YOU AT CHESS
A ROW!

ROAR!
I WONDER IF THE BREAKS WORK'?
COME ON UP!
WELL?
28


JUST A FEW BRUISES. IT'LL FLY.
THEN COME UP RIGHT AWAY. WE'VE FALLEN ON A KROP FIELD, AND WE SHOULDN'T BREATHE THESE FUMES.
WE'LL PROBABLY BUMP OUR NOSES RIGHT INTO THE "ETHEREALS."
THE "ETHEREALS"?
THE KROP HARVESTERS. THEY'RE A MYSTERY ABOUT AS BAFFLING AS THE HEART OF DARKNESS.
THEY ARE BEINGS WHICH ARE ABLE TO FLY AND GO ABOUT IN RUBBER SPACE SUITS AND HELMETS.
IT SEEMS THAT THE WHISPER IS THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS ANY POWER OVER THEM.. AHHHH!!
?

TUUT
THANK GOD I FOUND THE BRAKES!
NO, NOT NOW!!
HELP! SOMEBODY TAKE ME OUT FROM UNDER THE TRAIN!
IF YOU WEREN'T MY SECRETARY, I'D MAKE YOU MY BODYGUARD!
30

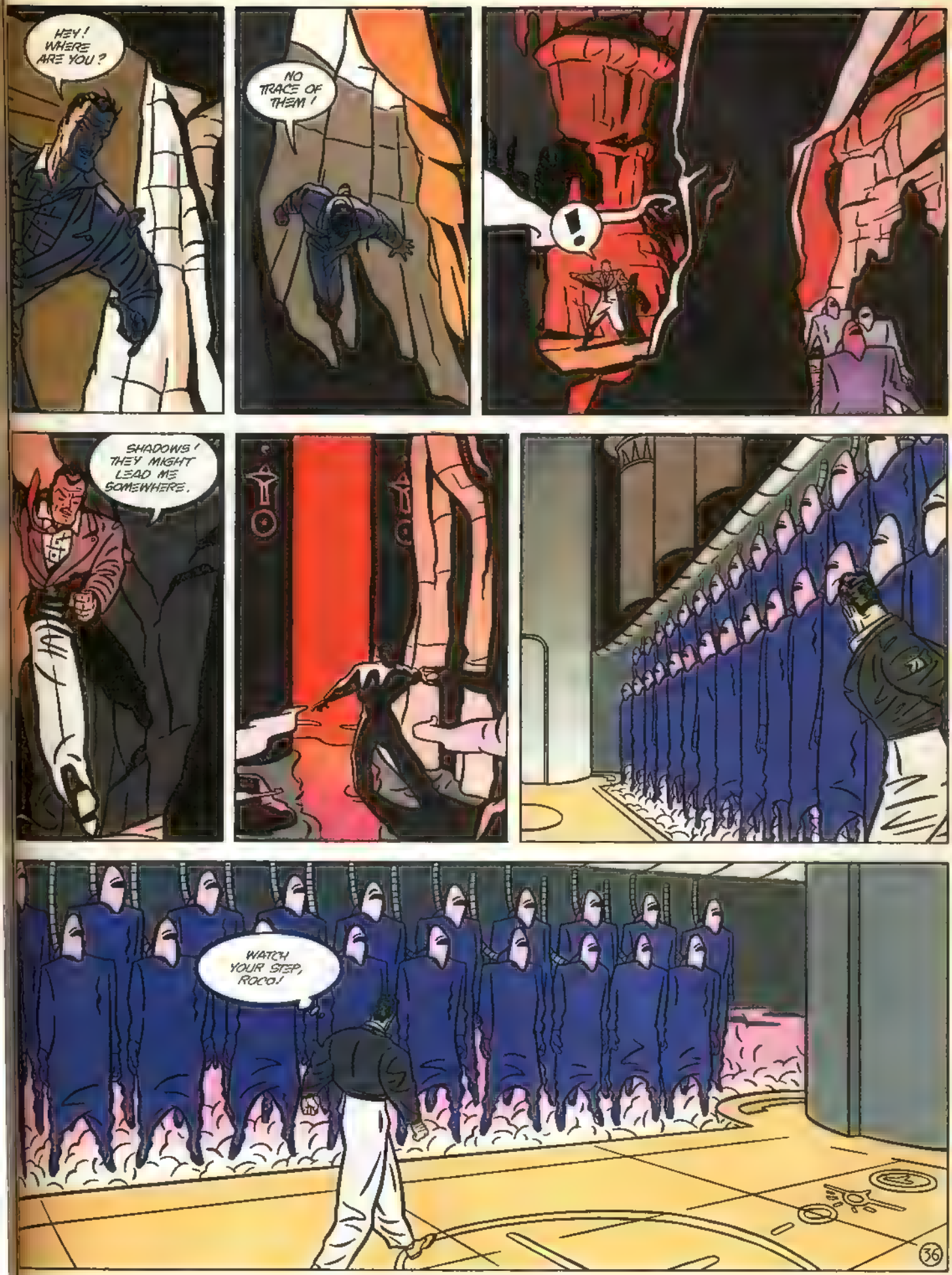
HMMM! WE LEFT MASSU MUCH TOO EASILY.
THEY PRACTICALLY HELPED US ESCAPE.
LET'S BE CAREFUL THEY'VE FORCED US TO GO NORTH, TOWARDS THE HEART OF DARKNESS.
...THE BLANK SPACE ON THE MAPS!
THAT'S A VERY GOOD DESCRIPTION, SAMSON. THAT'S THE WAY IT IS. I WONDER IF THE BLUE SKY IN FRONT OF US ISN'T JUST A MIRAGE.
THEY SAY THAT THERE'S A PLACE IN WHICH EVERYTHING DISAPPEARS.
FLOP!
31

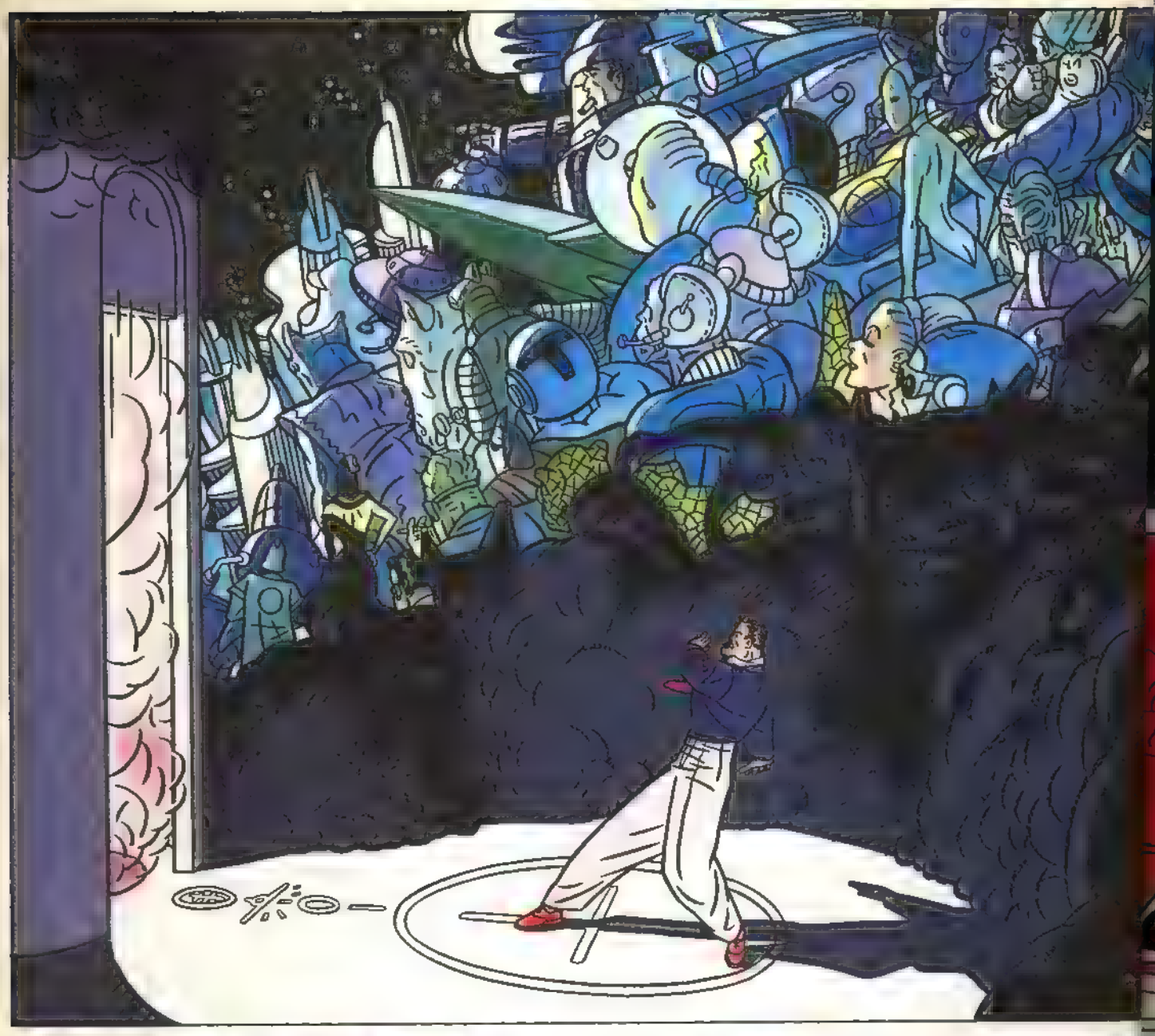
WELL! I WONDER IF WE FELL UP OR DOWN?
THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION. BUT WHAT BOTHERS ME MOST ARE.
...THE CLOTHES. WE'RE A LITTLE OVER-DRESSED FOR THIS SAFARI.
GOOD, RUBY YOU ALWAYS THINK OF THE LEAST IMPORTANT THINGS, AT THE MOST IMPORTANT TIMES.
WE'RE ABOUT TO DIE, AND SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT HER CLOTHES! Hrmph!
SOK!
32

YOU DULL-WITTED FIENDS! YOU'VE FALLEN IN THE TRAP!!
PUT DOWN YOUR ARMS. I HAVE YOU SURROUNDED.
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME!
AAHH!!

THIS WAY!
COME ALONG, INTREPID REPORTER!
MORE SURPRISES!
34

I HEAR WINGS FLAPPING! COME HIDE AMONG THESE ROCKS.
PSSSTT! THERE'S A NICE HIDING PLACE IN HERE
WE JUST MIGHT HAVE BEEN A LITTLE TOO CURIOUS FOR OUR OWN GOOD.
AND AS PUNISHMENT FOR THAT, WE'RE GOING TO BE FASCINATED BY IT.
YOU'RE EXAGGERATING, WRITER. I'VE SEEN PLACES AS SPLENDID AS THESE.
YES, THERE ARE. BUT NONE OF THEM HAVE REMAINED A LEGEND.
BAH! THESE ARE LITERARY BIASES. I DON'T SEE THE DIFFERENCE.

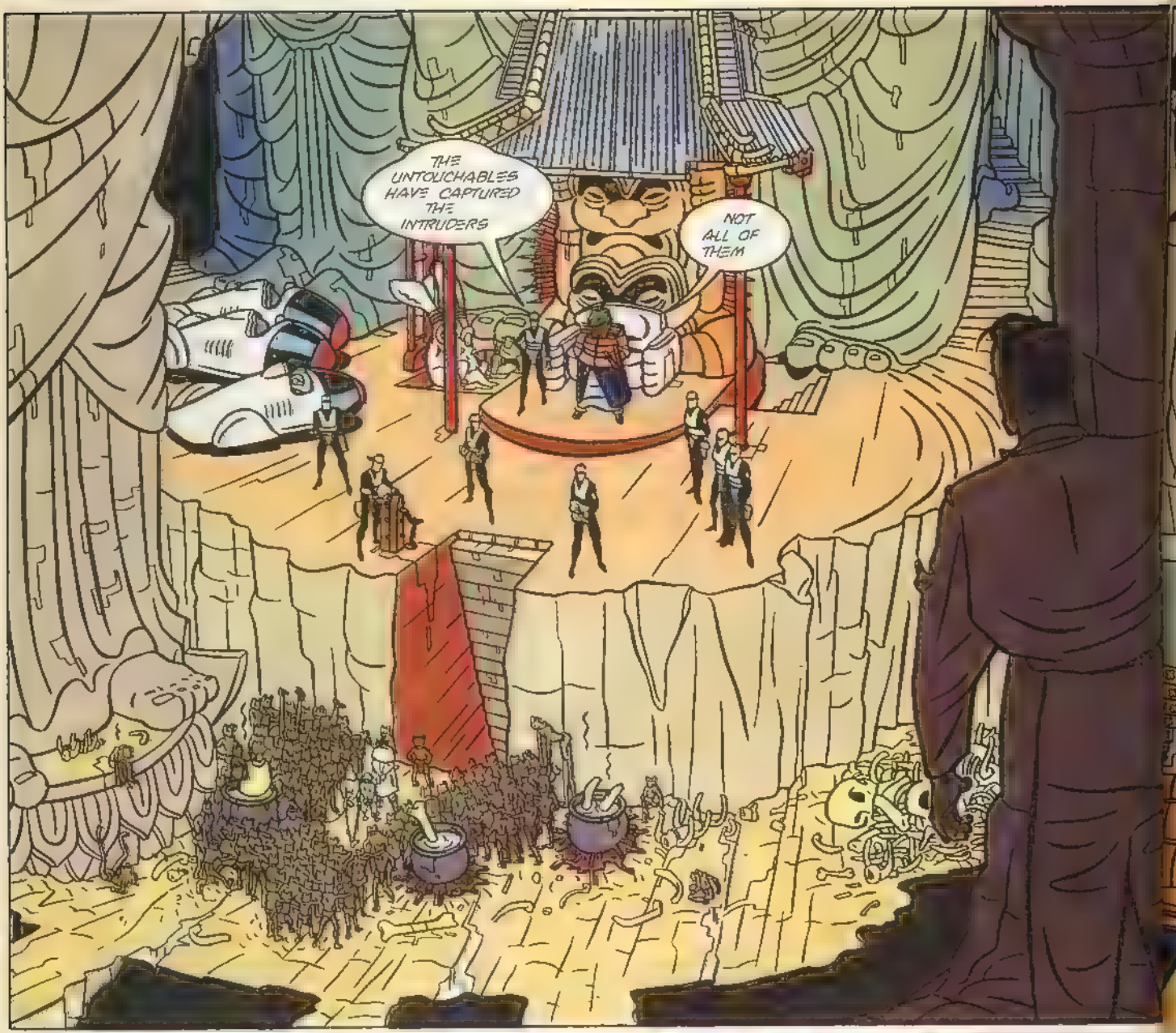

HEY! WHERE ARE YOU?
NO TRACE OF THEM!
!
SHADOWS! THEY MIGHT LEAD ME SOMEWHERE.
WATCH YOUR STEP, ROCO!
36



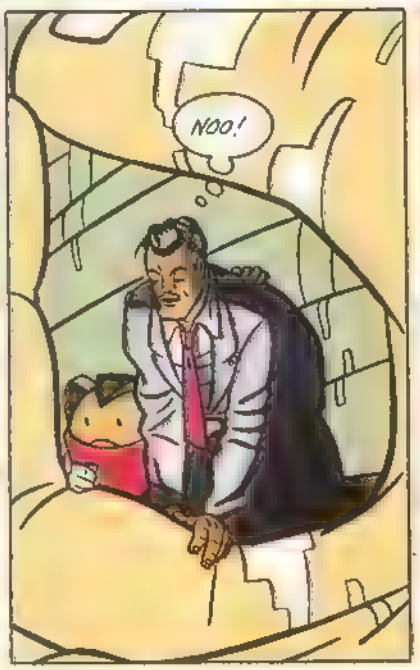
THAT'S IT! ENOUGH! I'M NOT GOING IN THERE
AH, MY DEAR VARGAS! OF LATE YOU'VE TRIED TO FIX EVERYTHING BY RUNNING FOR IT!
IF PANAMA COULD SEE YOU, HE'D CROSS YOU OFF HIS ADDRESS BOOK!
HUMPH!
TO HELL WITH EVERYTHING! MY KINGDOM FOR A COLD SHOWER
MORE SHADOWS! THIS IS STARTING TO IRRITATE ME.
COSMO!!
KIP!
37
38

MY FRIEND! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HAPPY I AM TO SEE A HUMAN BEING AROUND HERE, AFTER ALL THIS TIME!
BUT WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
LET'S SEE YOU'RE DRAWING.. A HAT? PANAMA'S HAT!
PANAMA WITH SCARLET... WITH SCARLET TREBOL AND THE DISTANT STAR!
YES, COSMO, THE WORLD IS VERY SMALL MMMM
SHH!

SINCE ROCO SEEMS ABOUT AS CAPABLE OF SAVING US, AS HE IS WRITING A GOOD BOOK, IT IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL END UP IN BOILING WATER
OH, DARN, AND I LEFT MY BATHING SUIT HOME!
HA HA HA
YAK YAK YAK!
PFFFT!
SHHH!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DO YOU ALL HAVE ONE?
GENERAL KOO!
LOOK DOWN THERE, GENERAL.
40


THE UNTOUCHABLES HAVE CAPTURED THE INTRUDERS
NOT ALL OF THEM

THERE WAS A MAN WITH THEM DID YOU EAT HIM?
BURK!

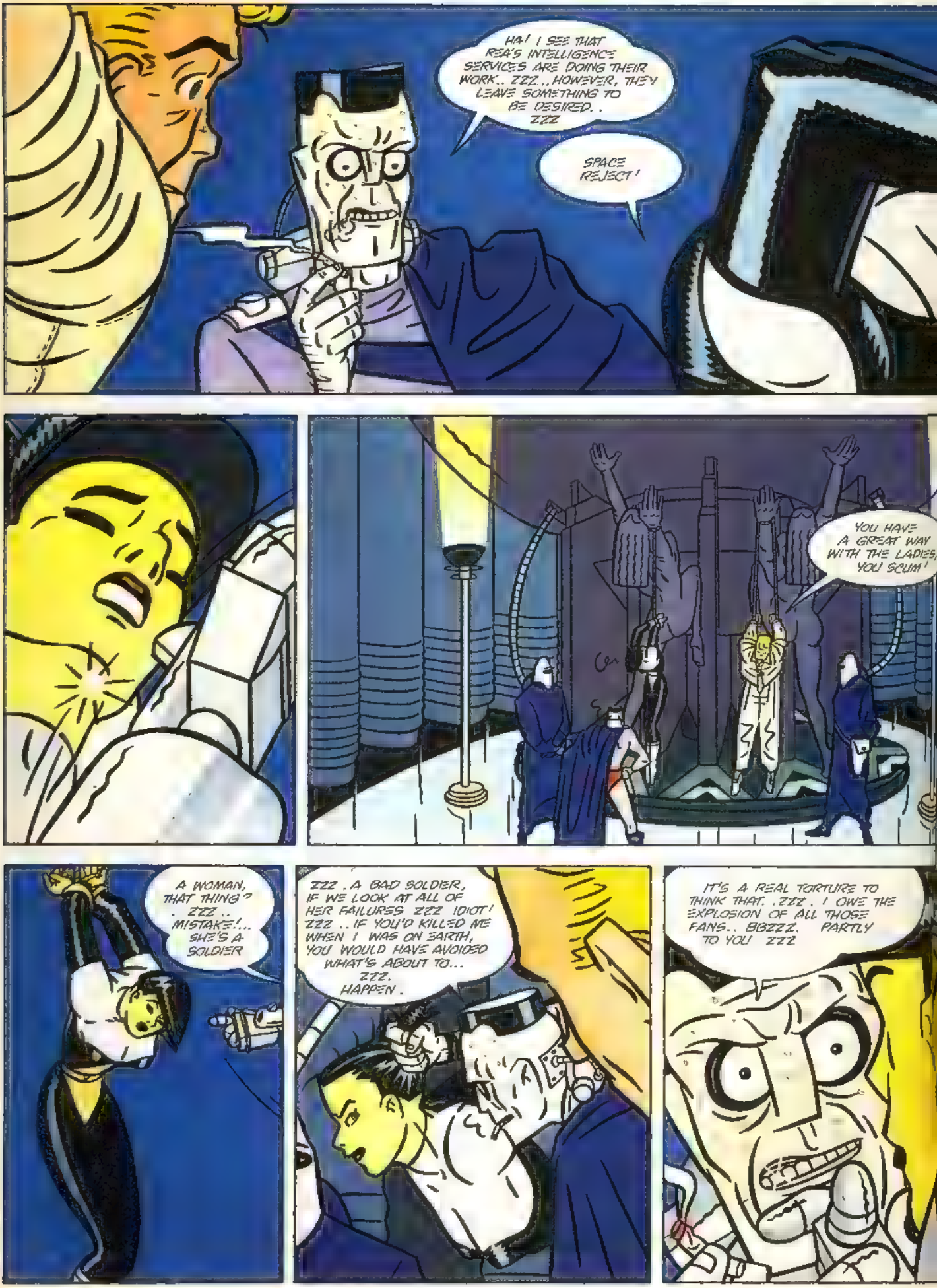

NOO!

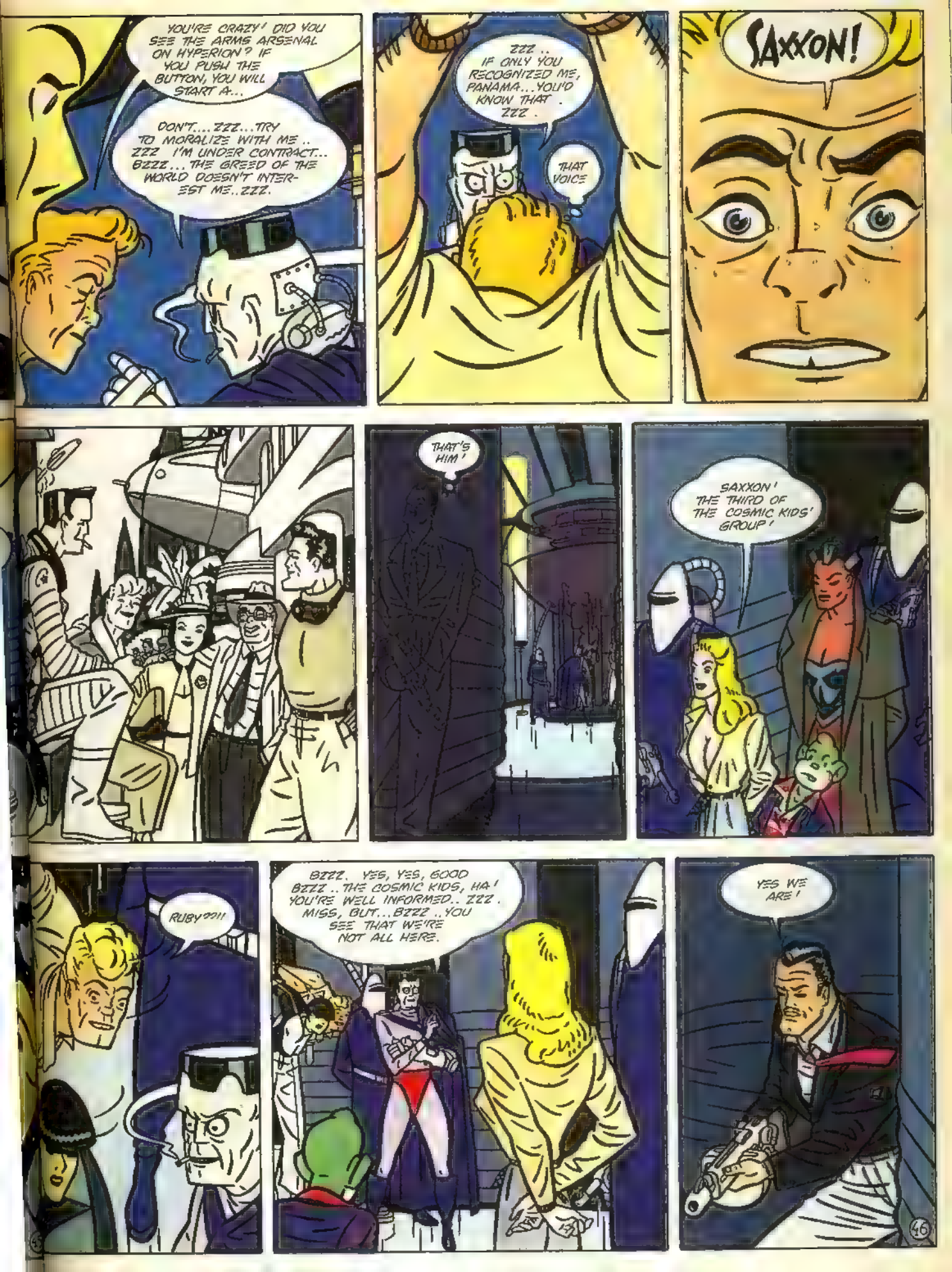
LET THEM COME UP HERE.

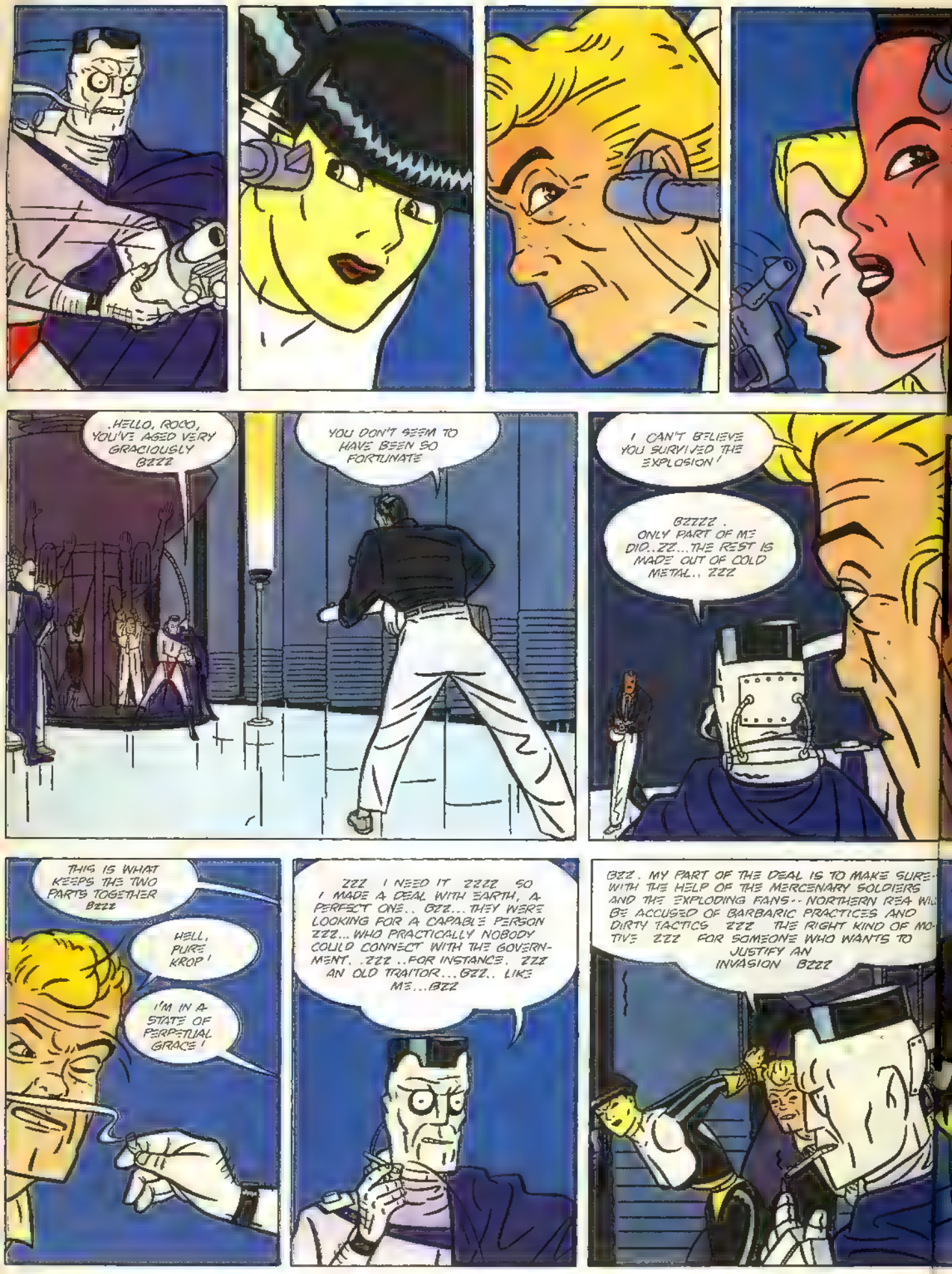
COME UP, SUCKERS ..
...SOMEONE IS WAITING FOR YOU

DON'T MAKE ALL THAT NOISE WHILE YOU'RE EATING, FILTHY SWINES. WHEN YOU BRING ME THE MAN, ONLY THEN WILL I GIVE YOU THE REST OF THE MENU.
POOR GUYS! THEY'RE STILL HUNGRY.
I'VE GOT TO FIX THIS SOMEHOW.

LET THE EARTHLING BE, AND TAKE CARE OF THE GENERAL!
LET'S GO, COSMO. WE'VE GIVEN THEM SOMETHING TO KEEP THEM OCCUPIED FOR A BIT..
WHEN. .
IS THE EXPLOSION
GOING TO HAPPEN?
44


HA! I SEE THAT REA'S INTELLIGENCE SERVICES ARE DOING THEIR WORK.. ZZZ..HOWEVER, THEY LEAVE SOMETHING TO BE DESIRED.. ZZZ
SPACE REJECT!
YOU HAVE A GREAT WAY WITH THE LADIES, YOU SCUM!
A WOMAN, THAT THING? . ZZZ .. MISTAKE!... SHE'S A SOLDIER
ZZZ . A BAD SOLDIER, IF WE LOOK AT ALL OF HER FAILURES ZZZ IDIOT! ZZZ .. IF YOU'D KILLED ME WHEN I WAS ON EARTH, YOU WOULD HAVE AVOIDED WHAT'S ABOUT TO... ZZZ. HAPPEN.
IT'S A REAL TORTURE TO THINK THAT. .ZZZ . I OWE THE EXPLOSION OF ALL THOSE FANS.. BBZZZ. PARTLY TO YOU ZZZ


YOU'RE CRAZY! DID YOU SEE THE ARMS ARSENAL ON HYPERION? IF YOU PUSH THE BUTTON, YOU WILL START A...
DON'T.... ZZZ... TRY TO MORALIZE WITH ME .. ZZZ I'M UNDER CONTRACT... BZZZ... THE GREED OF THE WORLD DOESN'T INTEREST ME.. ZZZ.
ZZZ .. IF ONLY YOU RECOGNIZED ME, PANAMA... YOU'D KNOW THAT . ZZZ .
THAT VOICE
SAXXON!
THAT'S HIM!
SAXXON! THE THIRD OF THE COSMIC KIDS' GROUP!
RUBY???!
BZZZ. YES, YES, GOOD BZZZ .. THE COSMIC KIDS, HA! YOU'RE WELL INFORMED.. ZZZ . MISS, BUT... BZZZ .. YOU SEE THAT WE'RE NOT ALL HERE.
YES WE ARE!
45
46


..HELLO, ROCO, YOU'VE AGED VERY GRACIOUSLY BZZZ
YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE BEEN SO FORTUNATE
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU SURVIVED THE EXPLOSION!
BZZZZ . ONLY PART OF ME DID..ZZ...THE REST IS MADE OUT OF COLD METAL.. ZZZ
THIS IS WHAT KEEPS THE TWO PARTS TOGETHER BZZZ
HELL, PURE KROP!
I'M IN A STATE OF PERPETUAL GRACE!
ZZZ I NEED IT ZZZZ SO I MADE A DEAL WITH EARTH, A PERFECT ONE.. BZZ...THEY WERE LOOKING FOR A CAPABLE PERSON ZZZ...WHO PRACTICALLY NOBODY COULD CONNECT WITH THE GOVERNMENT. .ZZZ ..FOR INSTANCE. ZZZ AN OLD TRAITOR...BZZ.. LIKE ME...BZZ
BZZ. MY PART OF THE DEAL IS TO MAKE SURE- WITH THE HELP OF THE MERCENARY SOLDIERS AND THE EXPLODING FANS-- NORTHERN REA WI BE ACCUSED OF BARBARIC PRACTICES AND DIRTY TACTICS ZZZ THE RIGHT KIND OF MOTIVE ZZZ FOR SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO JUSTIFY AN INVASION BZZZ

FOR THAT. ZZZ THEY GUARANTEE THAT I WILL HAVE ABSOLUTE CONTROL .ZZZ OVER THE HEART OF DARKNESS . BZZZ.
THAT EMPIRE HAS A MASTER ALREADY
AND THE PUZZLE IS COMPLETE.
WHAT? I CAN SEE YOU ALREADY PUBLISHING ALL THIS IN WEEKLY INSTALLMENTS AM I RIGHT, REPORTER?
YOU ROTTING CARCASS! WHO WILL YOU SHARE THE SPOILS WITH?
BZZZ YOU'RE A HOPELESS CASE ZZZ DON'T YOU EVER EARN ANYTHING?
HASN'T IT OCCURRED TO YOU ..BZZZ. .THAT MAYBE MY SOUL IS IMMENSE? BZZ IT DESPISES ALL THAT YOU YEARN FOR ZZZ
PFFFF
48

DEFF
DOWN, SAMSON!

LOOK AFTER THE KROP EMPEROR I'M GOING TO SEE IF THERE'S A WAY OUT OF HERE
SHE'S WRONG, ISN'T SHE ?
WHAT ? . BZZ
I KNEW YOU VERY WELL, AND I KNEW THAT YOU REALLY DESPISE POWER AND IT'S DELUSIONS. YOU ALWAYS HAD A CRAZY STREAK IN YOU.
IN OTHER WORDS ? BZZZ
YOU DON'T NEED TO CONTROL THE KROP MARKET. YOU'RE REALLY INTERESTED IN SOME THING ELSE, SOMETHING THAT'S ALSO HERE.
ZZZ ... I HAVE IT ALREADY . BZ WHAT I WANT TO DO IS PROTECT IT ZZZ IT'S SOMETHING ZZZ THAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS LOOKED FOR ZZZ
50

THE SHIPS ARE READY. I'M GOING TO FINISH OFF MY WORK.
BZZZ ..LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY. THE ETHEREALS ARE NOT JUST PRIMITIVE AND MYSTERIOUS BEINGS WHO HARVEST THE KROP FIELDS...ZZZ... THERE ARE CAVERNS WHERE THEY LEAVE THEIR RUBBER SUITS... .. ZZZ.. TO ENTER INTO. .ZZZ
WAIT A MOMENT !
I'VE BEEN IN ONE OF THOSE CAVERNS. JUST AS I ENTERED I WAS OVERWHELMED BY HUNDREDS OF IMAGES, OR VISIONS. AN THEN A DOOR OPENED--VERY INVITINGLY. .
BZZZ STUPID ! THEY LET YOU INTO THEIR WORLD AND YOU DIDN'T WANT TO ENTER IT ZZZ... DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT ? ZZZ . IT IS A HOLE, A DOOR TO OTHER DIMENSIONS... ZZZ A LIMITLESS VOYAGE IN AN ETERNAL PRESENT.
THEY ARE FANTASTIC BEINGS.. ZZZ . THEY HAVE ACCEPTED ME AS ONE OF THEIR OWN . ZZZ IF YOU COULD ONLY SEE HALF OF WHAT I HAVE EXPERIENCED, WHICH IS NOW MINE.. ZZZ. YOU WOULD BE SEIZED BY TERROR I HAVE VISITED PLACES BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS . ZZZ . AND I HAVE SEEN IN THE UNIVERSE STARS WHOSE EXISTENCE YOU DON'T EVEN SUSPECT...ZZZ
ZZZ...IT'S AS IF I HAVE LIVED THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF LIVES, BZ .. I POSSESS ALL I KNOW AND YET I AM POSSESSED BY IT ZZ BUT YOU CAN'T JUST SWIM BY AND LOOK AT ALL THAT, ROCO . BZZ . YOU HAVE TO PLUNGE IN THESE WATERS AND SWIM UNTIL YOU SCRAPE THE BOTTOM.
I UNDERSTAND.
ZZZ FOR THAT PRICE, CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOOK OVER ALL ZZZ OF THE UNIVERSE FROM ABOVE, TO HAVE ALL THE STARS AT YOUR FEET ?. ZZZ. TO CHALLENGE THE GODS ?
BLAM !

TO HELL WITH YOU MEN AND YOUR CHILDISH DREAMS OF GLORY !!!
BZZZ YOU'RE TOO LATE ! THE FANS EXPLODED THIS MORNING !
MURDERER !
NO!
BLAM!
YOU WRETCH ! YOU'RE NO BETTER THAN HE WAS. WITH THAT STUPID SMILE ON YOUR FACE YOU HAVE FOLLOWED HIM ALL OVER THE SOLAR SYSTEM, STREWING YOUR PATH WITH LIES AND DEAD BODIES AND SINCE YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO STOP HIM, YOU DESTROYED HIM
THIS ISN'T ONE OF YOUR SCRIPTS, MR VARGAS HERE, AT THE END OF THIS STORY, NOT EVERYTHING MAKES SENSE BUT ONE THING IS CLEAR : WE'RE ENEMIES ! WE ARE AT WAR !
YOU LITTLE LIZARD, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
OH!
SUGGESTING THAT WE LEAVE.
52

FOLLOW ME. I'LL TAKE YOU TO YOUR SHIPS.
LET'S GO, ROCO SAXXON IS DEAD AND THIS PLACE WILL BE FULL OF SOLDIERS IN A FEW SECONDS.
THANK YOU.
RUBY! GET ON THE DISTANT STAR.
GOOD BYE, ROCO. I'M GOING WITH LYNX TO MEGAVENUS. THE ADVENTURE HAS ONLY STARTED.
HAVE FUN! BUT DO COME BY THE MONGO AND HAVE DINNER WITH ME SOMEDAY.
HEY! FAMOUS WRITER! IF IT TURNS OUT THAT I'M AN EVEN BETTER PILOT THAN YOU ARE, DON'T DESPAIR!
HA!
GET YOUR ENGINES READY FOR TAKE OFF. IF YOU REALLY DO SUCCEED IN GETTING OUT OF THE HEART OF DARKNESS, YOU WILL RUN INTO FIGHTER PLANES WHO WILL WANT TO DESTROY YOU.... IF I DON'T DO IT BEFORE THEM!

THE END.

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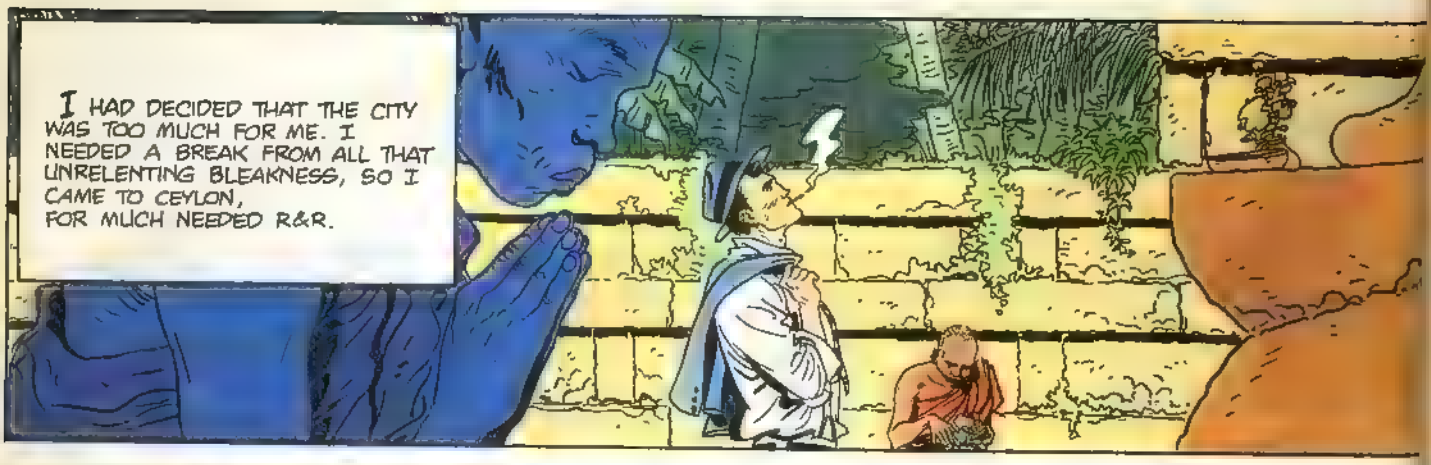
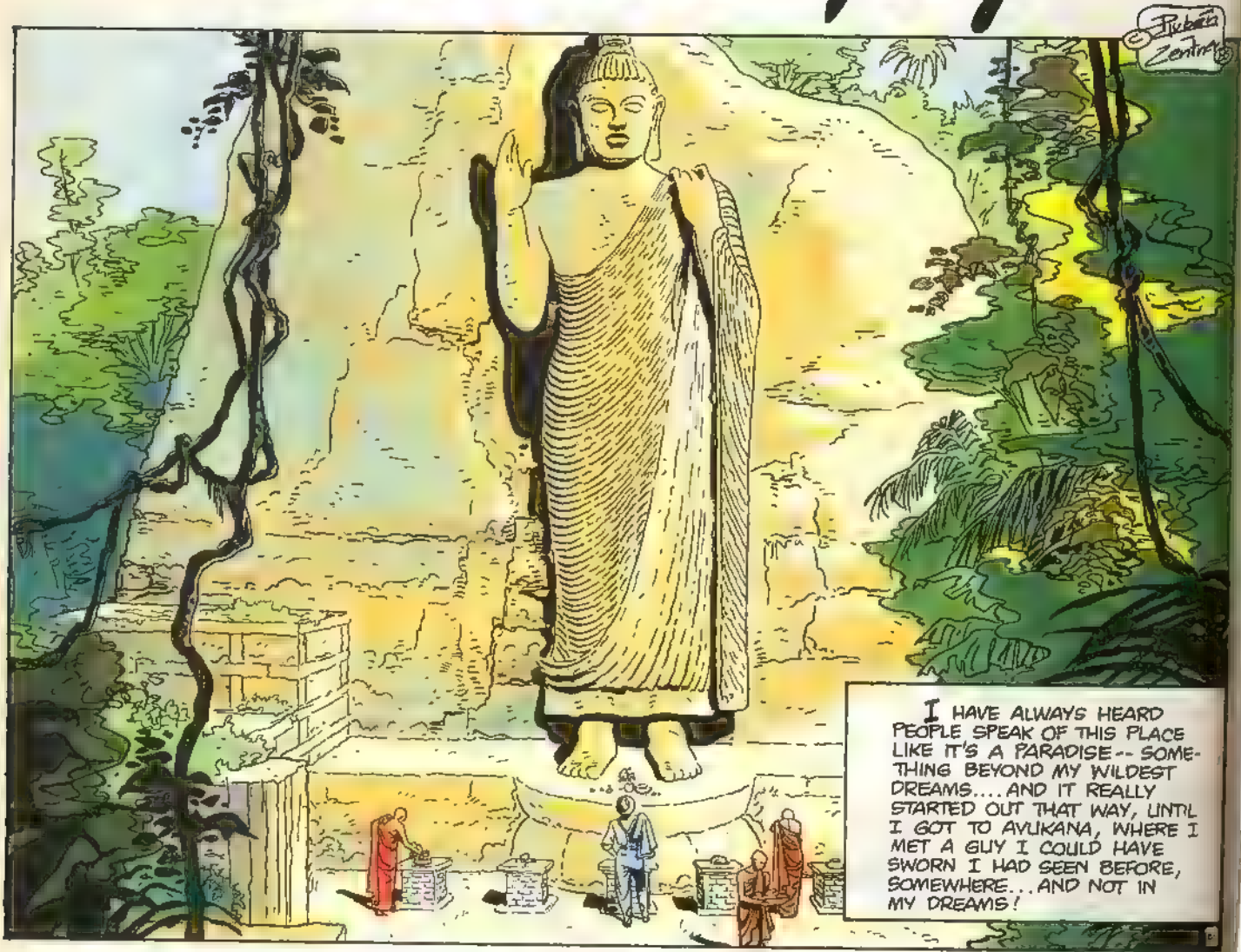

I HAD DECIDED THAT THE CITY WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME. I NEEDED A BREAK FROM ALL THAT UNRELENTING BLEAKNESS, SO I CAME TO CEYLON, FOR MUCH NEEDED R&R.

THE ADVENTURES OF DIETER LUMPEN:

The Bad Guy

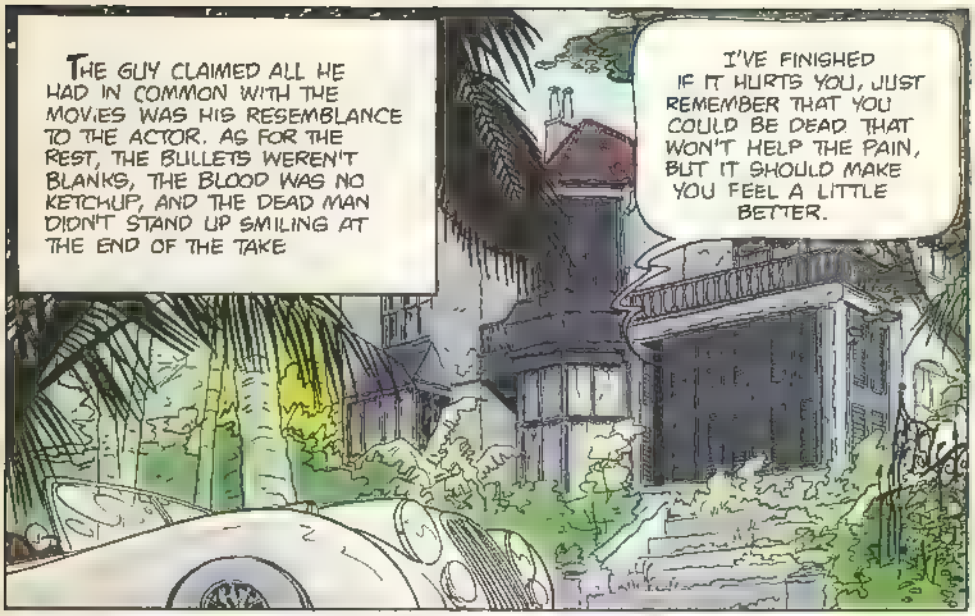

I HAVE ALWAYS HEARD PEOPLE SPEAK OF THIS PLACE LIKE IT'S A PARADISE -- SOMETHING BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS.... AND IT REALLY STARTED OUT THAT WAY, UNTIL I GOT TO AYUKANA, WHERE I MET A GUY I COULD HAVE SWORN I HAD SEEN BEFORE, SOMEWHERE... AND NOT IN MY DREAMS!

by Ruben & Zentner

WHERE COULD I HAVE POSSIBLY SEEN HIM BEFORE?
I WONDER... COULD HE BE ...
IT MUST BE HIM! HE ALWAYS PLAYS THE PART OF THE BAD GUY!

I'M NORMALLY A SHY PERSON, BUT MY CURIOSITY WAS PEAKED. AT THE RISK OF SEEMING INDISCREET, I DECIDED TO ASK FOR HIS AUTO-GRAPH BUT, IT WAS NOT THE TIME OR PLACE.
¡BANG!
¡BANG!
¡PENG!
¡PENG!
¡BANG!
¡BANG!
¡PAW!
¡PAW!
¡PAW!
AGGHHH!
GOOD. THAT DIDN'T TAKE TOO LONG.

HE'S DEAD!
YES, I'D SAY SO DEAD AS YOU PLEASE
BUT YOU'RE WOUNDED! YOUR THIGH IS BLEEDING!
YES, AND MY HAT IS RUINED. I NEED A DOCTOR--NOT TO MENTION A MILLINER. DO YOU KNOW HOW TO DRIVE?
I HAD THE UNPLEASANT SENSATION OF BEING CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A MOVIE, ONE OF THOSE IN WHICH YOU DON'T KNOW WHO'S THE GOOD GUY AND WHO'S THE BAD GUY UNTIL THE VERY END.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO SHOT YOU?
NO, NOT REALLY. SHOW ME A MAN WHO KNOWS WHO ALL OF HIS ENEMIES ARE, AND I'LL SHOW YOU A WELL-LOVED MAN
WELL... I DON'T.. HOWEVER, THIS IS SERIOUS THIS ISN'T A MOVIE! THAT GUY IS DEAD AND.. YOUR LEG ..
OH, NOW I GET IT! YOU HAVE MISTAKEN ME FOR THE ACTOR DON'T WORRY-- IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME IT'S HAPPENED

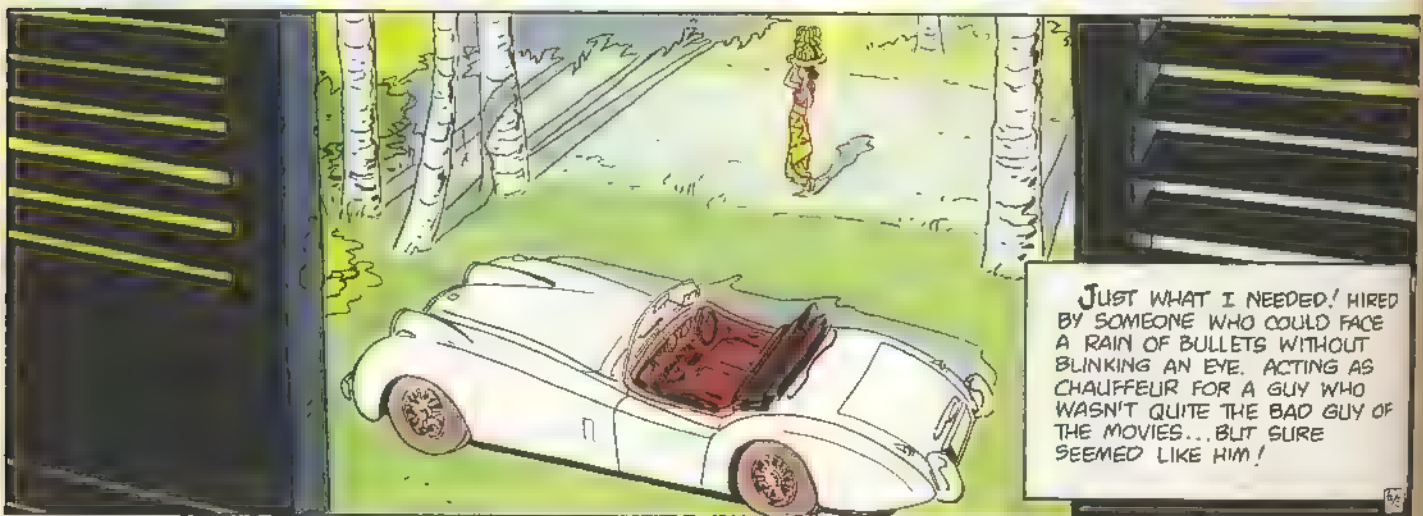

THE GUY CLAIMED ALL HE HAD IN COMMON WITH THE MOVIES WAS HIS RESEMBLANCE TO THE ACTOR. AS FOR THE REST, THE BULLETS WEREN'T BLANKS, THE BLOOD WAS NO KETCHUP, AND THE DEAD MAN DIDN'T STAND UP SMILING AT THE END OF THE TAKE
I'VE FINISHED IF IT HURTS YOU, JUST REMEMBER THAT YOU COULD BE DEAD. THAT WON'T HELP THE PAIN, BUT IT SHOULD MAKE YOU FEEL A LITTLE BETTER.

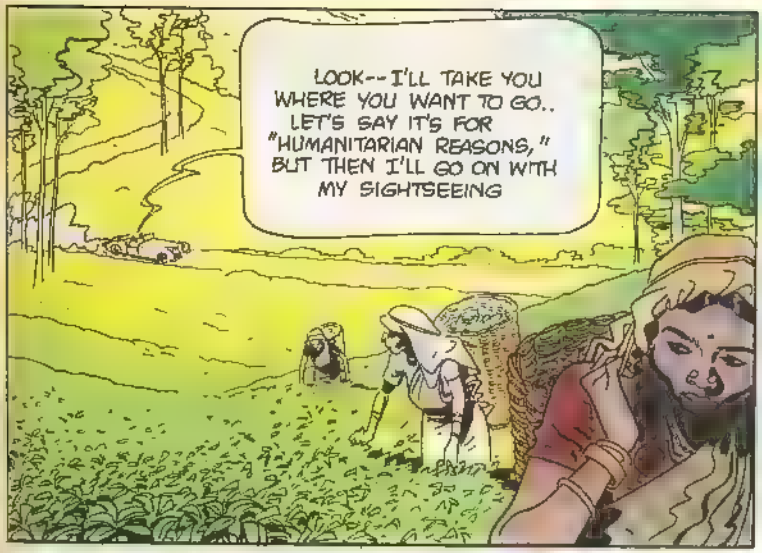
VERY NICE, DOC, THANKS. WHEN WILL I BE ABLE TO WALK WITHOUT THE CRUTCHES ?

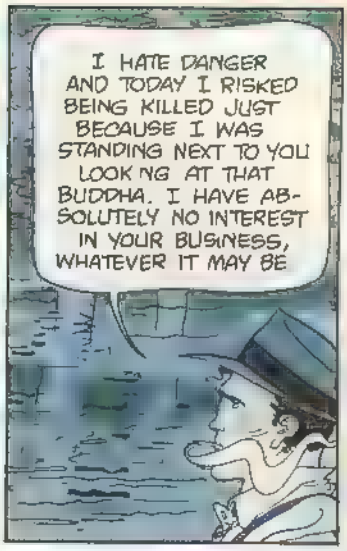
TEN DAYS, MAYBE A WEEK... BUT YOUR HAT IS IN SERIOUS CONDITION. HA HA HA..

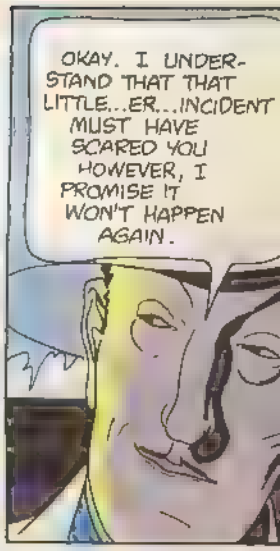
GOOD, I SEE THAT THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR ME TO DO HERE GOOD BYE

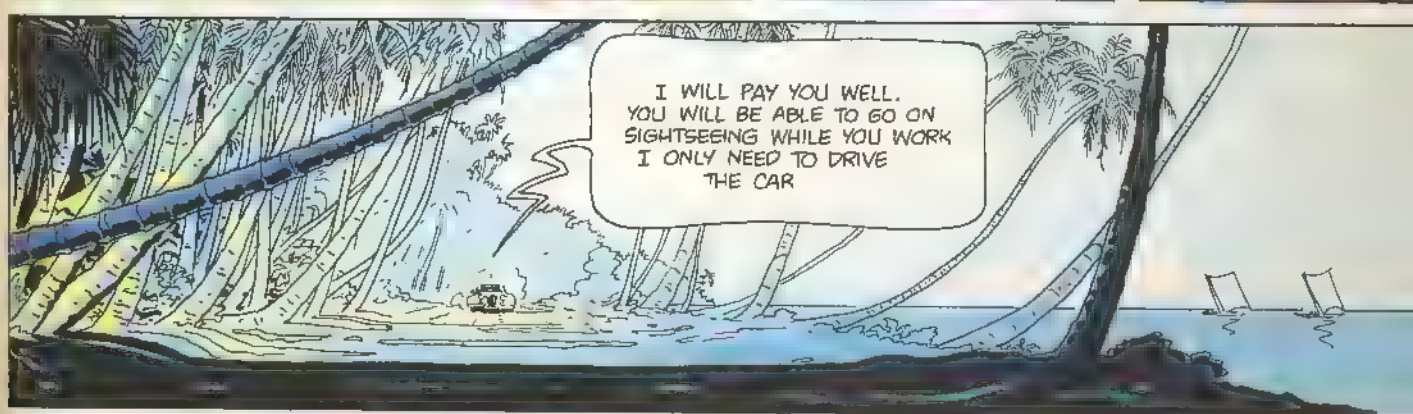
WAIT A MINUTE. I HAVE TO TRANSACT SOME BUSINESS LATER ON, AND WITH THIS LEG... WELL, I'LL NEED AN ASSISTANT.

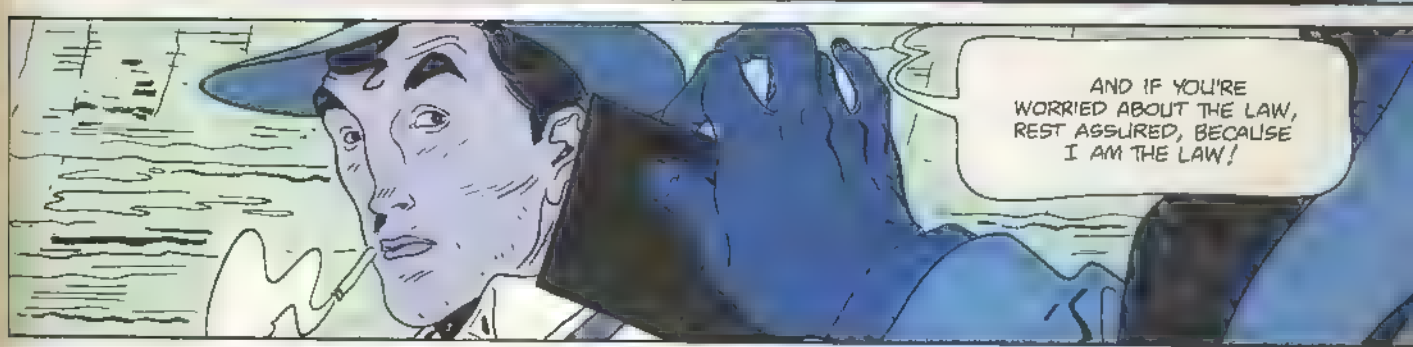

JUST WHAT I NEEDED! HIRED BY SOMEONE WHO COULD FACE A RAIN OF BULLETS WITHOUT BLINKING AN EYE. ACTING AS CHAUFFEUR FOR A GUY WHO WASN'T QUITE THE BAD GUY OF THE MOVIES... BUT SURE SEEMED LIKE HIM!


LOOK--I'LL TAKE YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO GO.. LET'S SAY IT'S FOR "HUMANITARIAN REASONS," BUT THEN I'LL GO ON WITH MY SIGHTSEEING

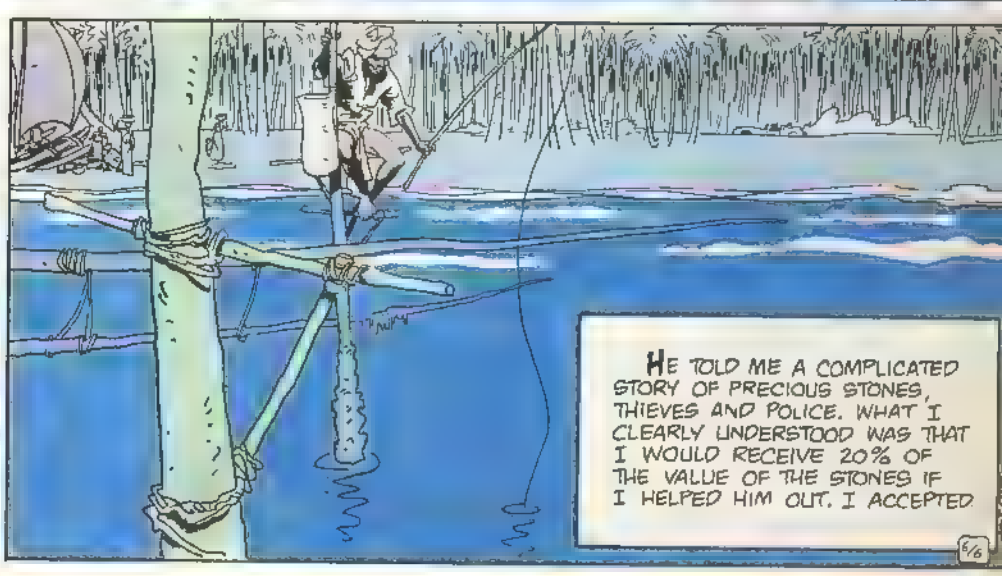

I HATE DANGER AND TODAY I RISKED BEING KILLED JUST BECAUSE I WAS STANDING NEXT TO YOU LOOKING AT THAT BUDDHA. I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST IN YOUR BUSINESS, WHATEVER IT MAY BE

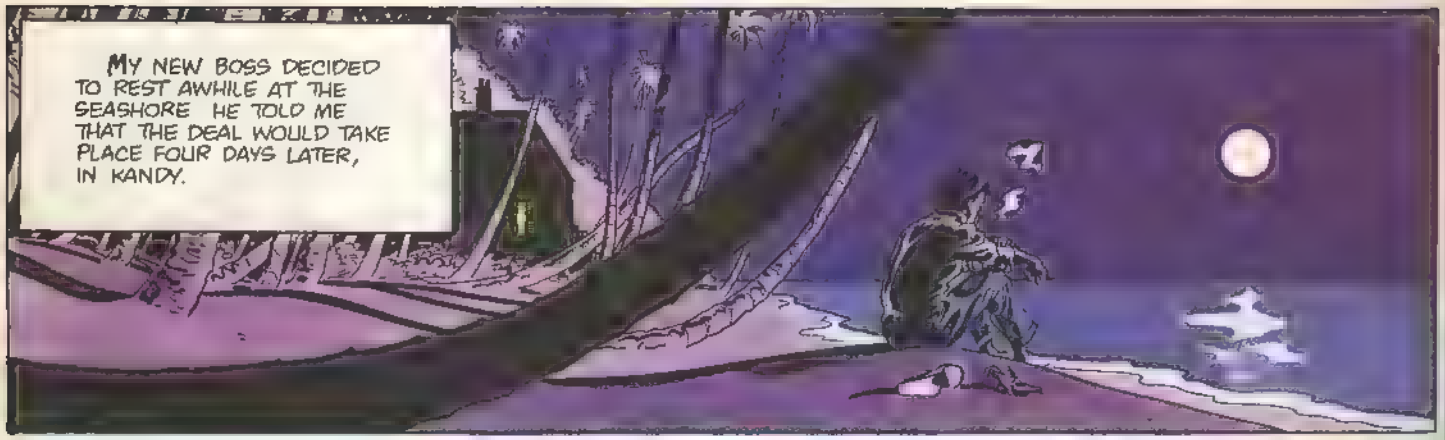

OKAY. I UNDERSTAND THAT THAT LITTLE...ER...INCIDENT MUST HAVE SCARED YOU HOWEVER, I PROMISE IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

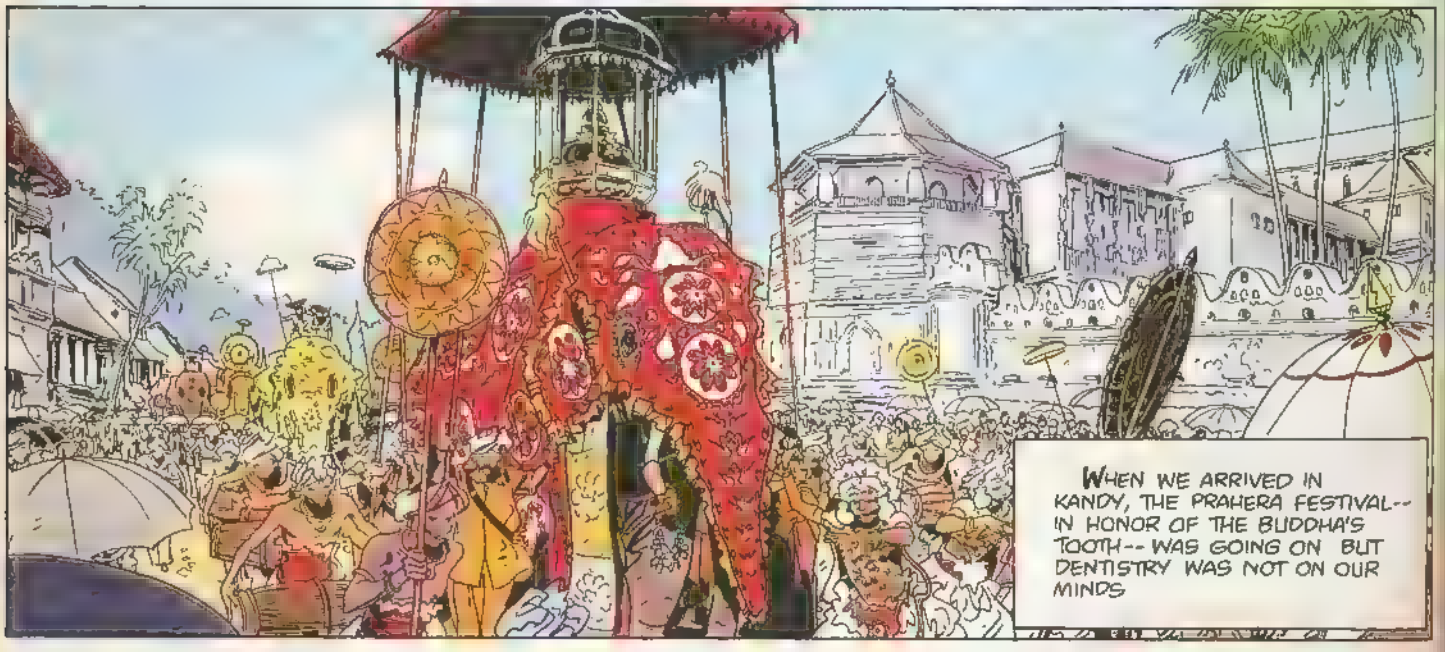

I WILL PAY YOU WELL. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GO ON SIGHTSEEING WHILE YOU WORK I ONLY NEED TO DRIVE THE CAR

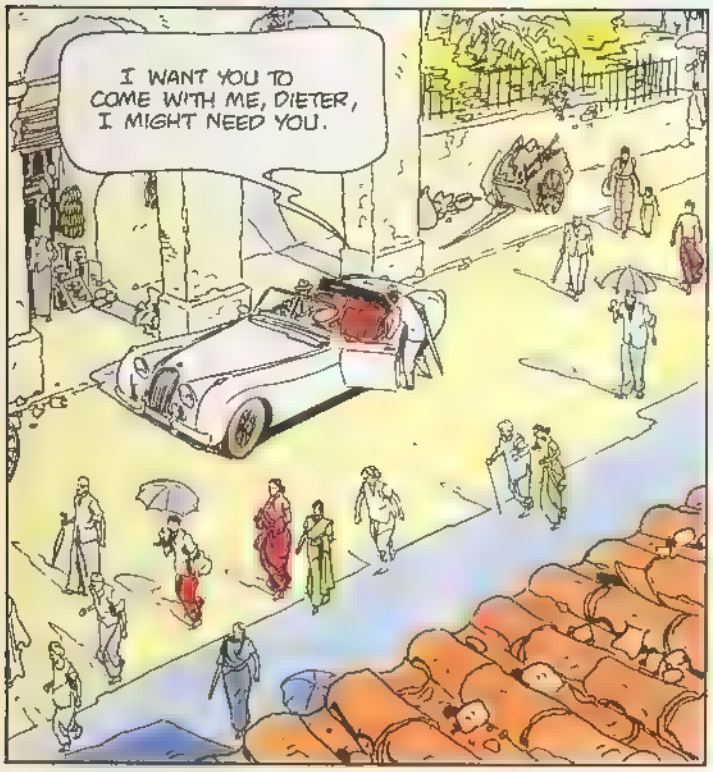

AND IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT THE LAW, REST ASSURED, BECAUSE I AM THE LAW!

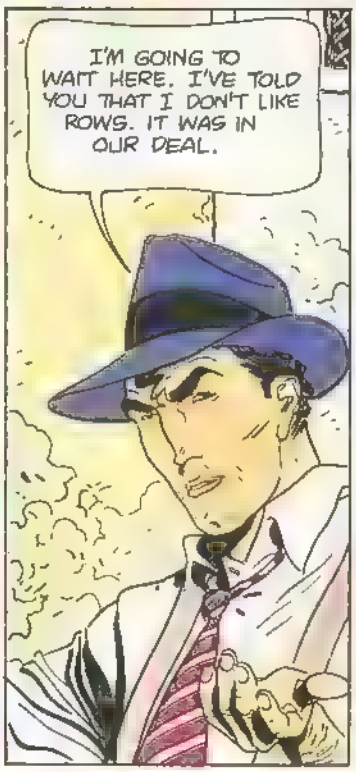
INTERPOL!?


HE TOLD ME A COMPLICATED STORY OF PRECIOUS STONES, THIEVES AND POLICE. WHAT I CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD WAS THAT I WOULD RECEIVE 20% OF THE VALUE OF THE STONES IF I HELPED HIM OUT. I ACCEPTED
6/6


MY NEW BOSS DECIDED TO REST AWHILE AT THE SEASHORE HE TOLD ME THAT THE DEAL WOULD TAKE PLACE FOUR DAYS LATER, IN KANDY.


WHEN WE ARRIVED IN KANDY, THE PRAHERA FESTIVAL-- IN HONOR OF THE BUDDHA'S TOOTH-- WAS GOING ON BUT DENTISTRY WAS NOT ON OUR MINDS


I WANT YOU TO COME WITH ME, DIETER, I MIGHT NEED YOU.


I'M GOING TO WAIT HERE. I'VE TOLD YOU THAT I DON'T LIKE ROWS. IT WAS IN OUR DEAL.

I CAN'T WASTE ANYMORE TIME. IF YOU WANT YOUR 20%, YOU'D BETTER FOLLOW ME.

COME ON! HURRY UP!
TAKE THIS, YOU MIGHT NEED IT!
THAT SON OF A BITCH WAS SCREWING ME AROUND-- AND I DIDN'T LIKE IT! I HATED HIM LIKE ONE HATES THE BAD GUYS IN A MOVIE. THE RESEMBLANCE WAS STILL THERE
BE CAREFUL. THEY ARE WAITING FOR US AT THE CORNER
6/8

I SEE YOU ARE VERY PUNCTUAL. LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS
AHHGHH!!!
EVERYBODY STOP! ONE MOVE AND YOU'RE DEAD MEAT!
GIVE THE STONES BACK, OR I'LL SLIT HIS THROAT!
HURRY UP, MUCHACHO MY FRIEND IS A NERVOUS SORT AND I DON'T THINK YOUR BOSS LIKES THAT.

DAMN IT, LUMPEN! GIVE HIM THE STONES! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR???
I COULDN'T MOVE--I WAS FROZEN. ALL OF THOSE B-FILM IMAGES THAT I KNEW SO WELL FLASHED BEFORE ME.
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF, FOR ONCE, I ACTED LIKE ONE OF THOSE BAD GUYS IN THE MOVIE?
¡BANG!
¡BANG!
LUMPEN!!! AHEEHN!!
THE GUY WAS A SHITTY ACTOR ANYWAY!

HEAVY METAL

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MIGUEL ANGEL PRADO '88
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.. AND SO I SAID, "IF MY TOTI HAS TO LEAVE THESE REVOLTING PREMISES, YOU MUST ALSO GET RID OF ALL THOSE DISGUSTING CHILDREN, WHO SHOULD AT LEAST TRY TO BE AS CLEAN AND AS POLITE AS HE IS."
THAT WAS VERY WELL PUT.
PEOPLE NOWADAYS LACK SENSIBILITY. I'VE ALSO HAD MY PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF SOPHOCLES. FOR INSTANCE, THE OTHER DAY, THEY WOULDN'T LET HIM ON THE BUS I SAY, AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO LIVE IN A DEMOCRACY?
YOU'RE PERFECTLY RIGHT!
PLAIN AND SIMPLE... IT'S JUST A QUESTION OF SENSITIVITY. PEOPLE DON'T THINK OF THE TRAUMA DOGS EXPERIENCE WHEN FACED WITH SUCH DISCRIMINATION
THESE PEOPLE MAKE ME SICK! IF THEY'RE SO UNDERSTANDING, WHY DON'T THEY LET THEIR DOGS TAKE A SHIT IN THE HOUSE. WHY? BECAUSE IT'S MUCH EASIER IF THEY DO IT IN THE STREET, FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE.

by Miguel Angel Prado

SURE! WHY NOT? RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PAVEMENT! PRETTY SOON THE WHOLE CITY WILL BE PAVED WITH DOG SHIT
ONE HAS TO BE VERY SKILLED TO WALK A HUNDRED FEET WITHOUT STEPPING IN IT.
AND WHAT'S WORSE IS THE STENCH. IT'S REALLY UNBEARABLE AND MAKES ME FEEL SICK.
THE TRAINING SCHOOL IS VERY GOOD BUT EXPENSIVE. HOWEVER, THE TEACHERS ARE FANTASTIC!
—RADO '86
AND HE IS MAKING GREAT PROGRESS, ISN'T THAT SO, FIDO?
THE PARK! I'LL FINALLY BE ABLE TO BREATHE FRESH AIR! WHAT A RELIEF!
THEY'RE EVERYWHERE!

THIS IS INCREDIBLE! THAT DOG IS TAKING A SHIT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PARK, AND HE'S JUST A FEW FEET FROM THE DOG DRAIN
EXCUSE ME, BUT YOUR DOGG ARE LITTERING THE PARK, THERE'S A DOG DRAIN JUST A FEW FEET AWAY.
SURE, AND WHAT THE HELL DOES IT MATTER TO YOU?
HEY, MAN! THE STREETS ARE DISGUSTING BECAUSE OF CREEPS LIKE YOU-- IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO WALK THREE FEET WITHOUT TRACKING CRAP!
YOU CAN TELL THIS ALL TO THE CITY GOVERNMENT WE PAY OUR TAXES. LET THEM HIRE MORE STREET CLEANERS.
I ALSO PAY MY TAXES, AND I DON'T GO AROUND TAKING A SHIT IN THE STREETS. SO, FUCK OFF!
LISTEN, YOU PLEBIAN, WHAT YOU DO DOESN'T INTEREST ME IN THE LEAST AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU USE FOUL LANGUAGE IN FRONT OF THESE LADIES.
OH!
SO, WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING WITH YOUR BORING SPEECHES, YOU PSEUDO-INTELLECT?
WATCH I DON'T PUNCH YOUR HEAD OFF, YOU MORON!
I DOUBT YOU'LL EVER GET TO DO THAT, RED HOG!
©1986 LEONARD TSUKI

HEY, LISTEN, HOLD BACK YOUR VERMIN SWEET LITTLE D AHHHHH!
GRRRR
FIDO, BE CAREFUL! DON'T HURT YOURSELF!
SPOT, DARLING, DON'T GET DIRTY!
LEAVE MY DOG ALONE! IMMEDIATELY!
BULLY! BULLY!
DON'T TOUCH MY PUFFY!
THEY HAVE SUCH FUN TOGETHER. THEY LOVE TO PLAY!
I LOVE TO SEE THEM ENJOY THEMSELVES!
THEY ARE SUCH MISCHIEVOUS RAGAMUFFINS!
NO, MA, WAIT A MOMENT! I WANT TO SEE WHO WINS! MAAAA! I WANT TO SEE THE END!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE SUCH VIOLENCE!
MIGUELANGEL '86

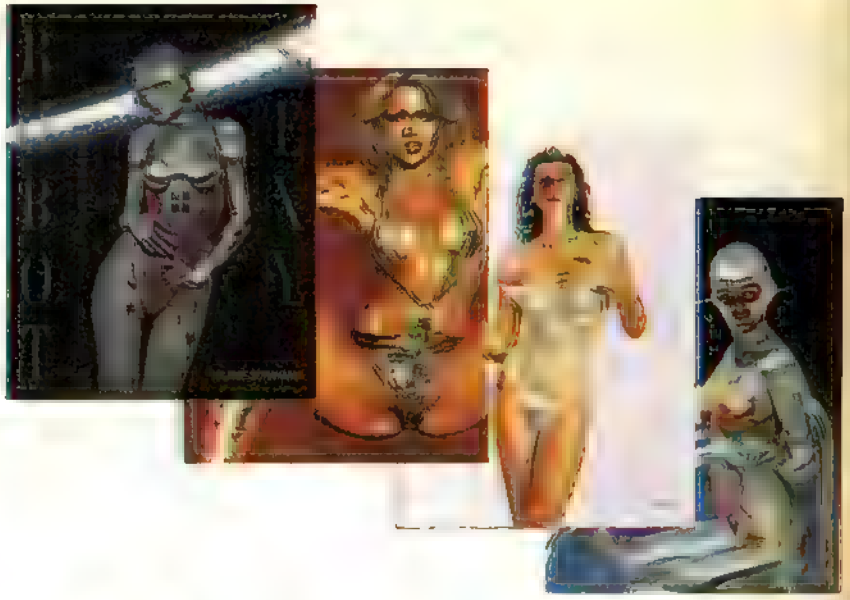
THE MESS! THEY SHOULD HAVE CALLED THE GARBAGE MAN, NOT US!
SHUT UP! DON'T MAKE H.M FEEL ANY WORSE
IT'S OKAY, CALM DOWN, WE ARE HERE!
AY
REW! HOW DISGUSTING!
HE'S GOING TO MESS UP THE WHOLE AMBULANCE... THE MAIN PART IS IN... DO YOU HAVE ALL THE OTHER PIECES?
LET'S SEE .. NO. I THINK SOMETHING'S MISSING.
AY
EXCUSE ME, IS THIS ARM YOURS?
NO, NO, IT MUST BE THAT GUYS. IT MUST HAVE FALLEN OFF. COME, CUS-CUS, GIVE THE BONE BACK TO THE NICE LADY.
VERY GOOD, CUS-CUS, GOOD BOY. HE'S LOVELY, ISN'T HE? LET'S GO, CUS-CUS.
WELL, WE'VE GOT ALL THE PIECES NOW, WE CAN GO.
AY
JUST LOOK AT THE RUBBISH THAT GUY LEFT BEHIND!
IT'S SO DISGUSTING! PEOPLE HAVE BECOME SO UNCIVIL!
I'LL DESTROY THEM. I'LL SUE THEM IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY'LL NEVER FORGET ME.
DON'T TALK, MAN, OR YOU'LL LOSE THE LITTLE STRENGTH YOU'VE GOT LEFT.
TIRU-TIRU-TIRU
MDO '86

WHO CAN BELIEVE THAT THIS MAGNIFICENT SPECIMEN, THIS NOBLE ANIMAL, FAITHFUL AND SUBMISSIVE, COULD HAVE ATTACKED SOMEBODY? HE MUST HAVE BEEN SORELY PROVOKED...THANK YOU, CUS-CUS, YOU MAY STEP DOWN
NURSE, ISN'T IT TRUE THAT WHEN YOU ASKED CUS-CUS FOR MR. LLAMA'S ARM, CUS-CUS GAVE IT BACK TO YOU GLADLY?
YES YES, SIR
THANK YOU.
HE STARTED INSULTING AND THREATENING US. HE MUST HAVE BEEN OFF HIS ROCKER AND OUR DOGS, OF COURSE, CAME TO OUR DEFENSE
ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENSE?
YES, YOUR HONOR!
MIGUELANXEL '85
AND I SUPPOSE THAT YOU HAVE ALL MORE OR LESS THE SAME DECLARATIONS TO MAKE?
YES, YOUR HONOR!
WELL, LET'S SAVE OURSELVES SOME TIME. THERE ARE TWELVE IN ALL, IS THAT RIGHT? GOOD, READY... WHAT ELSE?
THERE ARE REALLY 25 IN ALL, YOUR HONOR, IF YOU COUNT THE DOGS. THEY WERE ALSO WITNESSES.
AH, OF COURSE. TWENTY-FIVE.
AND TO END THIS, I WOULD LIKE TO CALL THE PLAINTIFF, MR. LLAMA, TO THE BENCH

LET'S SEE, MR. LLAMA, ARE YOU SURE THAT YOU DON'T HATE DOGS?
NOOO! I LOVE THEM, I REALLY DO. I LOVE ALL ANIMALS.
YES
DO YOU THEN, BY ANY CHANCE, HAVE A DOG AS A FRIEND? DO YOU SEE HIM EVERY NOW AND THEN, DO YOU EAT WITH HIM, DO YOU TAKE WALKS TOGETHER OR BETTER, DO YOU LIVE TOGETHER? CAN YOU SHOW THE JURY A SINGLE DOG WHO WILL ADMIT TO BEING YOUR FRIEND? NO! MR LLAMA, YOU HAVE NO DOG FRIEND, BECAUSE YOU DETEST THEM, YOU HATE THEM! HOW CAN YOU EVEN TRY TO CONVINCE US OF THE CONTRARY, MR. LLAMA?
WHA?
I...I.. THIS IS ABSURD...
YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR SEAT
BU..BUT..
GO-BACK-TO-YOUR-SEAT
THIS IS THE VERDICT: WE SENTENCE LLCAS LLAMA LIDO TO A FINE OF $300 TO BE PAID TO MR. ESE VON BIGGOT, AS INDEMNITY FOR HAVING BEEN THE VICTIM OF AGGRESSION, PLUS A FINE OF $200 FOR PUBLIC DISTURBANCE. ..
..AND TO ANOTHER FINE OF $150 FOR LITTERING THE PARK WITH HIS BLOOD AND ENTRAILS. HE WILL ALSO PAY $200 FOR MENTAL CRUELTY AND SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT I'M NOT SENDING HIM UP THE RIVER. THIS COURT IS ADJOURNED.
ALL THIS TO ME?? ...BU...BUT YOU MUST BE CRAZY!!
BUT, YOUR HONOR, IT IS I WHO AM THE PLAINTIFF!!!
DON'T REMIND ME OF THAT, OR I'LL SEND YOU TO JAIL FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT!
RADO '80

I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND! THIS WHOLE THING IS UNBELIEVABLE!
OH!
HI THERE! HOW'S YOUR FRIEND CUS-CUS, THAT PIG! I KNOW IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, BUT YOUR OWNER'S
I SEE THAT YOU APPRECIATE AND LOVE DOGS. GREAT!
I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL WANT TO SIGN THIS PETITION TO DO AWAY WITH ALL DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES AGAINST DOGS, WHICH NOW DO NOT PERMIT OUR FAITHFUL FRIENDS TO ENTER HEALTH SPAS, BARS AND MANY OTHER PUBLIC PLACES. THIS PETITION WAS STARTED AFTER THE LLAMA-LIDO/CUS-CUS TRIAL SET A POSITIVE PRECEDENT.
SAVAGE! MONSTER! TERRORIST!
SOME PEOPLE REALLY HATE DOGS!
MIGUELANGEL '86

THE END



Pin-Up

A dizzyingly visual trip to a world of gorgeous women

Japanese master-artist Hajime Sorayama draws sexy women magnificently. This beautiful art book contains eighty-one pages of pin-ups. It's large size, 9 × 12, and printed on fine coated paper. The book will grace your coffee table or make a wonderful gift.

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○ ***PIN-UP***
$24.95 (plus $3 shipping)

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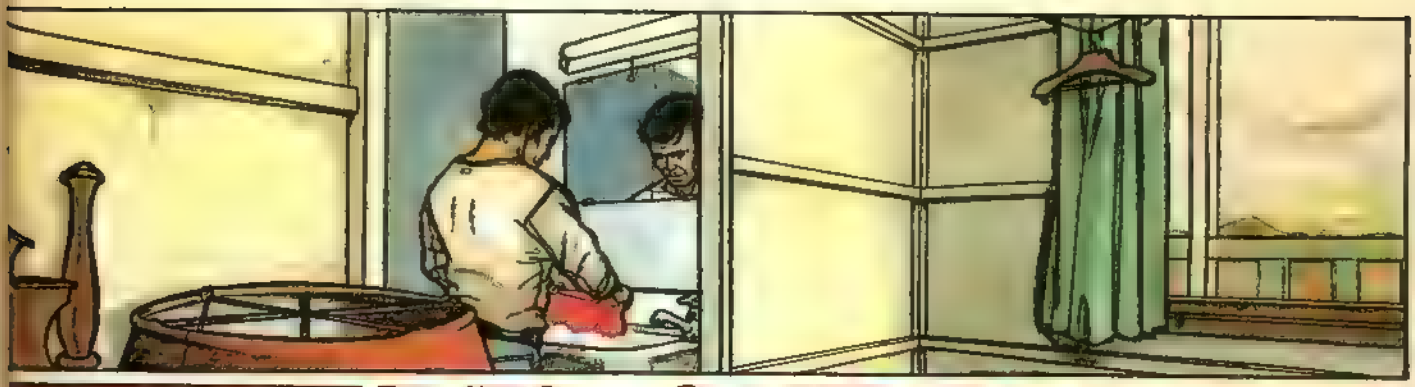
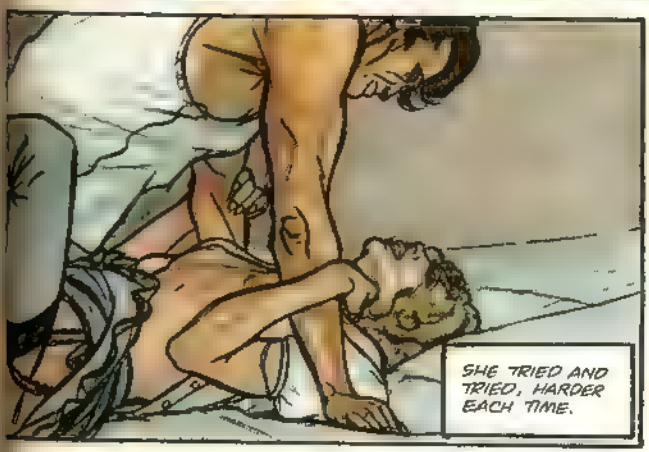
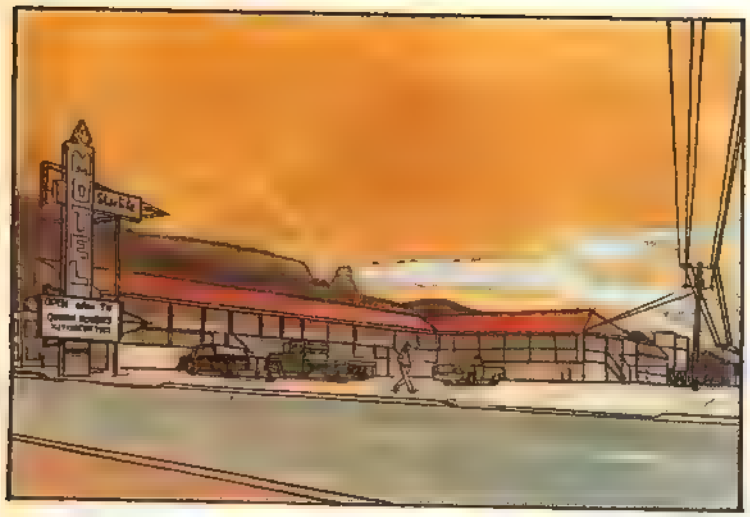
MAIL ORDER TO: HEAVY METAL Dept. W87, 635 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022

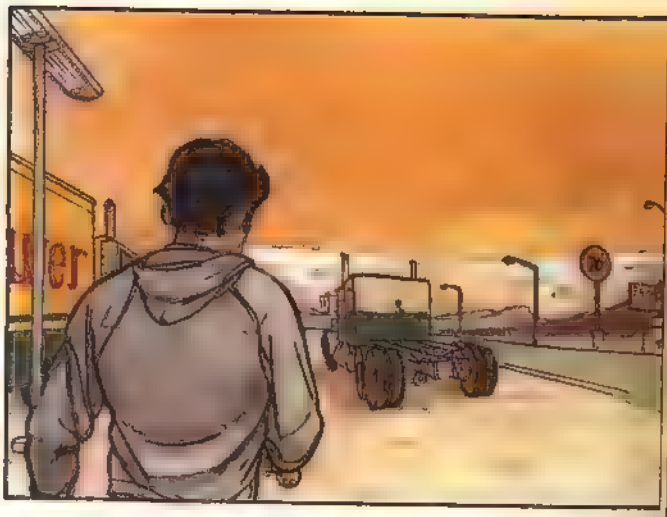


RED SHIRT



by Shepard and Theureau

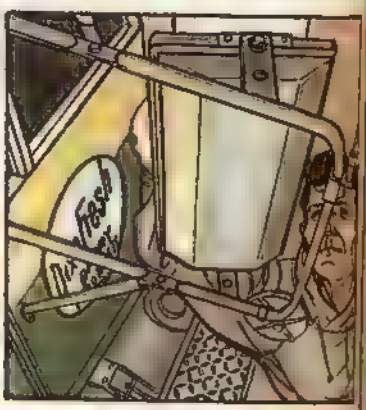


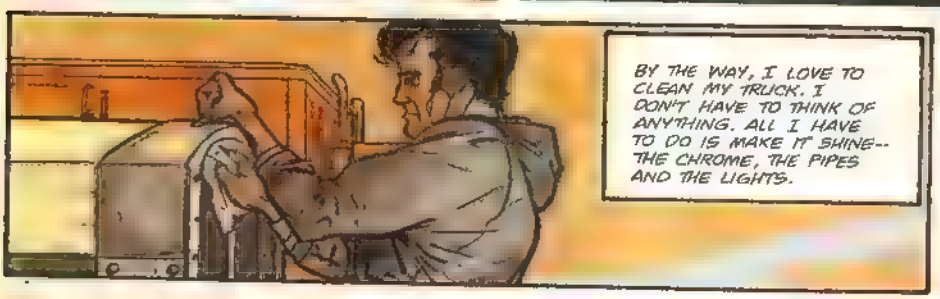


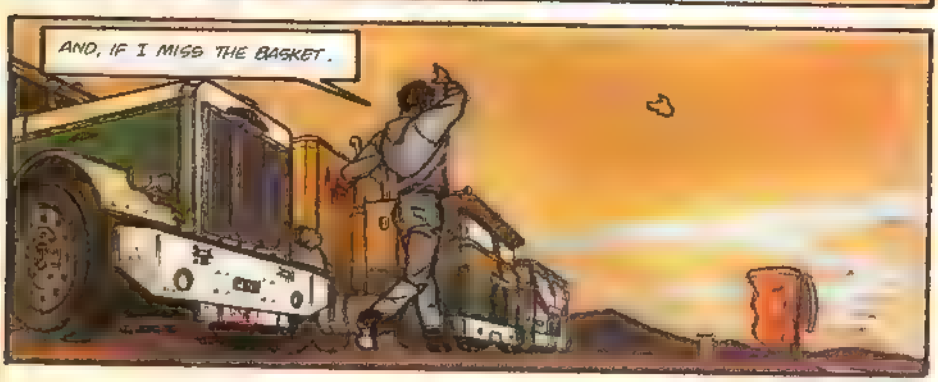
SPIT MARKS... HOW DISGUSTING... I'M REALLY A SLOB .
214

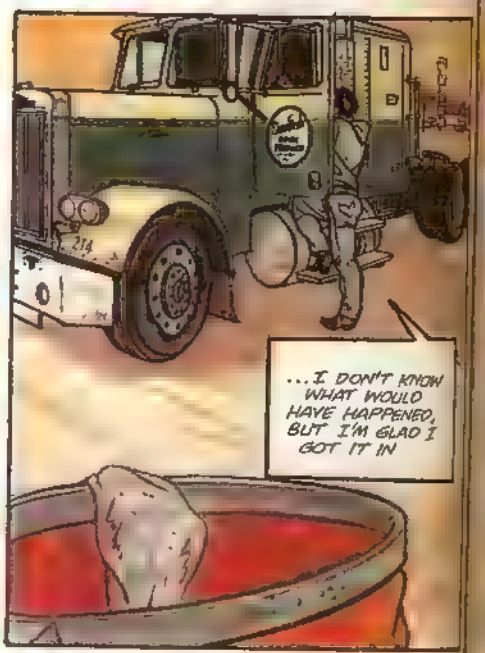
I DON'T WANT ANYBODY TO SEE ME WITH A DIRTY TRUCK.

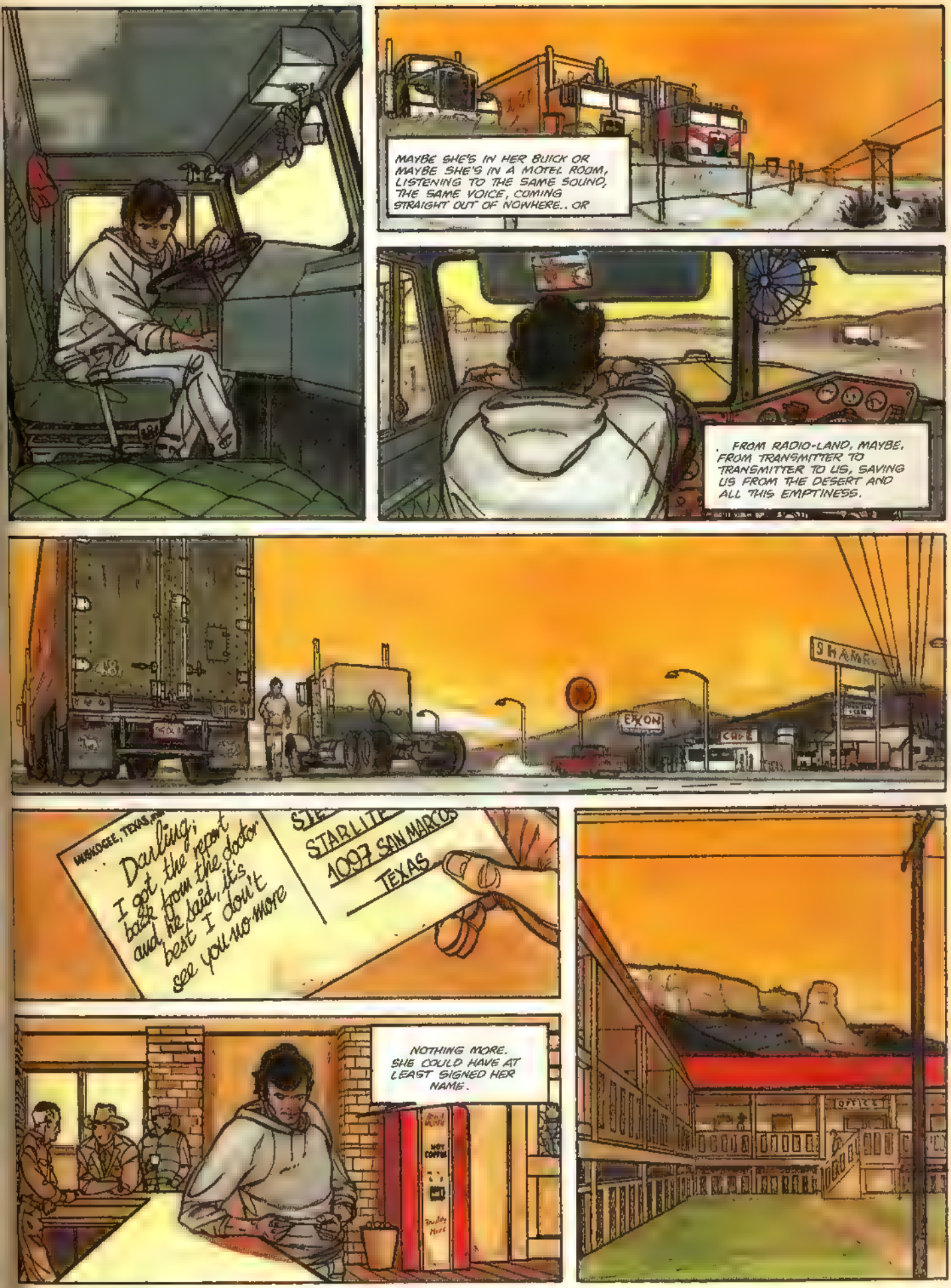
I HATE THE DESERT...THE DUST GETS EVERYWHERE. NOTHING STAYS CLEAN HERE




BY THE WAY, I LOVE TO CLEAN MY TRUCK. I DON'T HAVE TO THINK OF ANYTHING. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS MAKE IT SHINE-- THE CHROME, THE PIPES AND THE LIGHTS.


AND, IF I MISS THE BASKET.


...I DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED, BUT I'M GLAD I GOT IT IN


MAYBE SHE'S IN HER BUICK OR MAYBE SHE'S IN A MOTEL ROOM, LISTENING TO THE SAME SOUND, THE SAME VOICE, COMING STRAIGHT OUT OF NOWHERE.. OR
. FROM RADIO-LAND, MAYBE. FROM TRANSMITTER TO TRANSMITTER TO US, SAVING US FROM THE DESERT AND ALL THIS EMPTINESS.
SHAMROCK
EXXON
MUSKOGEE, TEXAS
Darling, I got the report back from the doctor and, he said, it's best I don't see you no more
STARLITE
1097 SAN MARCOS
TEXAS
NOTHING MORE. SHE COULD HAVE AT LEAST SIGNED HER NAME.
OFFICE

YOU CAN WALK THROUGH, SEÑOR, I'LL MOVE THE HOSE.
JUST KIDDING, SEÑOR!
IT'S ONLY WATER... OR YOU WOULD HAVE THE IMPRINT OF MY BOOT ON YOUR FANNY FOR YEARS TO COME!
?!

HE?
AND IF YOU SEE HER ANY-MORE, I'LL KILL YOU
HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN LIKE THIS, BLEEDING ON THIS SHIRT... DAYS?
DRING
THE TELEPHONE... I WONDER WHO'S CALLING ...UGH, CAN'T MOVE!
GOOD MORNING!
17
THE END

WE WANT YOUR MONEY!

A B C D E Photo by Michael Ranchwic

A Berni Wrightson's **Hanover Fiste** and his ne'er-do-well accomplice **Captain Sternn**. You've seen them in the magazine, you've seen them in the *Heavy Metal* movie, now see them coming and going. This durable four-color cotton **T-shirt** is a must for summer. **$7.50.**
_____ small _____ medium _____ large

B The **original Heavy Metal T-shirt** comes in red and black and is made of cotton-blend. The essential HM product. **$7.50**
_____ small _____ medium
_____ large _____ red _____ black

C *Heavy Metal*'s pride and joy, our silver, satin-like **jacket**, equipped with a cotton lining, and front pockets, too. Hipper than a Stones '72 tour jacket! **$36.00.**
_____ small _____ medium _____ large

D **Heavy Metal's phosphorescent T-shirt.** These all-cotton tees are available in sleeveless or regular style black shirts. Wear it to bed and you won't need a nite-lite to find your way to the bathroom. **$8.00**
_____ small _____ medium
_____ large _____ sleeveless
_____ regular

E Our latest and greatest product—the **Heavy Metal all-cotton sweatshirt**. Wear it to the gym or to your fave dance spot and watch those calories melt away while maintaining your ultra-chic image. **$15.95.**
_____ small _____ large
_____ medium _____ ex. large
_____ black _____ white _____ grey

F **Ranxerox T-shirt.** Made of 100% cotton with a reinforced neck. Deep armholes, extra body length and fullness. White with design in full color. **$10.95**
_____ small _____ medium _____ large
_____ ex-large

Keep your pants up with a **Heavy Metal belt buckle.** It's 3¼" × 2" and will fit any standard belt. Also deflects alien laser guns. **$10.95**

You can now smack **Ranxerox's** pretty puss right on your lapel with this handsome **color pin.** $5.00, includes postage and handling. Don't leave home without it!
_____ /Ranxerox pin.

Check off what you like and how many you want. Include size and color. Add up what it costs. (Add 8¼% sales tax if you live in New York State.) Write a check or money order for the total, put it in an envelope with this ad, and send it to:

Heavy Metal, Dept. HMW87, 635 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10022.

And it would be helpful if we knew your . . .

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

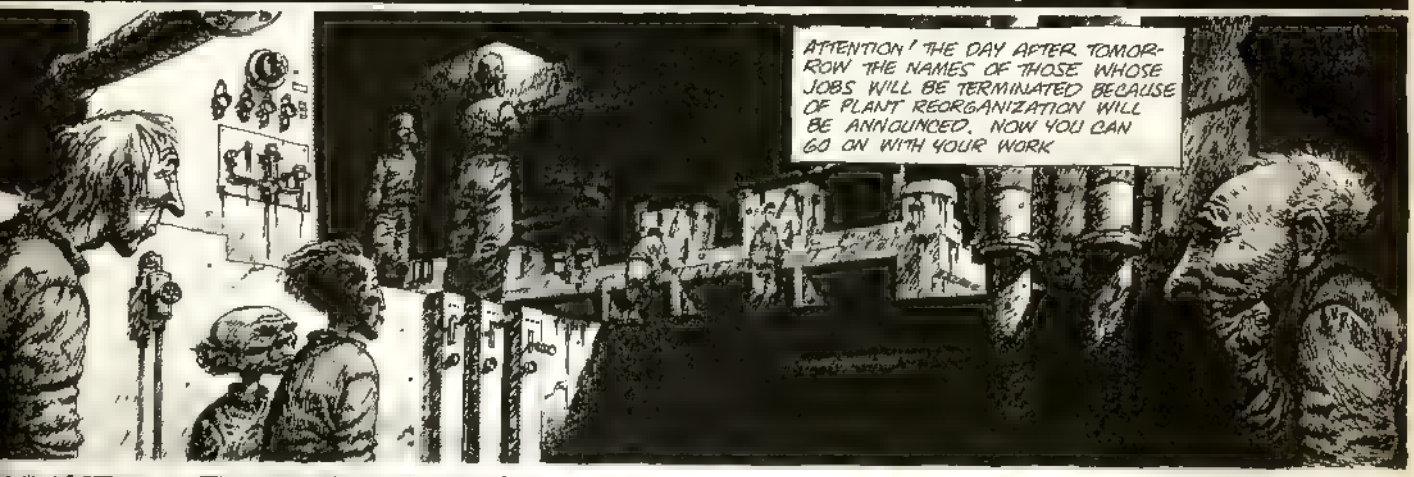
City _____ State ____ Zip ____

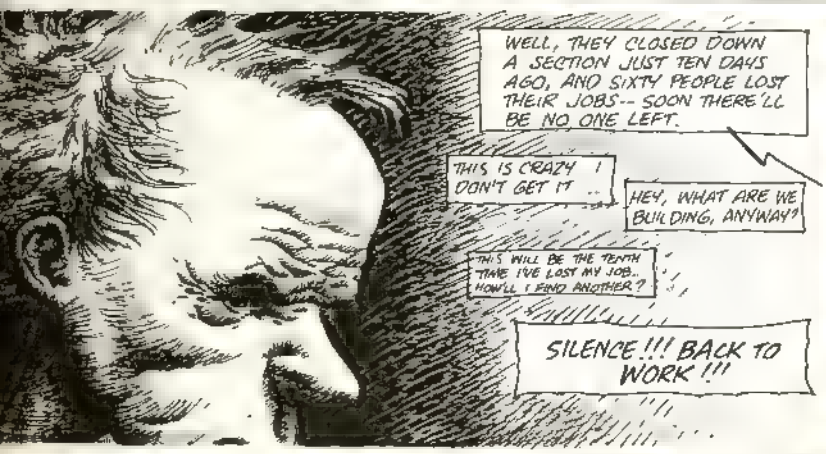
Total amount enclosed $ _____

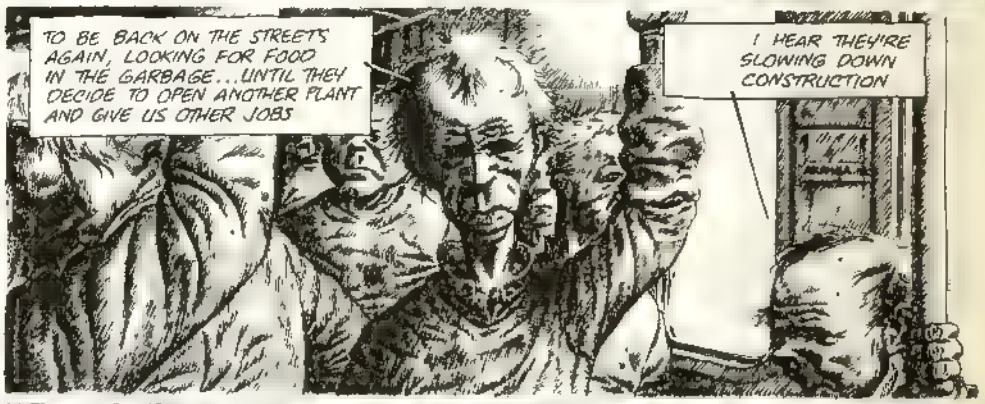
All prices above include postage and handling.

If you don't wish to cut the page out, but do wish to order, please print or type all applicable info on a separate piece of paper, and enclose it with a check or money order. After all, you wouldn't take scissors to the Mona Lisa, would you?

LEVEL ONE

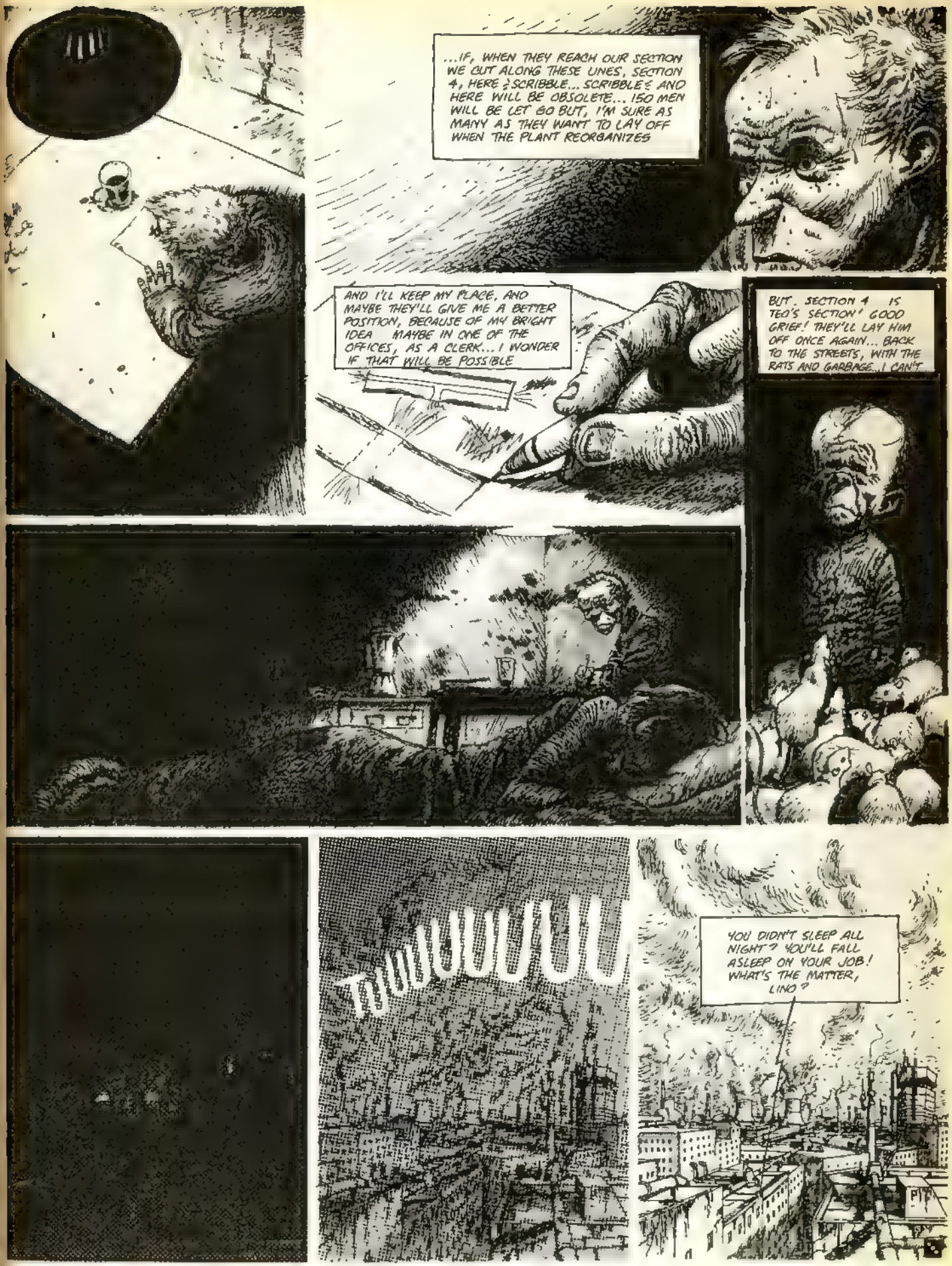

ATTENTION! THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW THE NAMES OF THOSE WHOSE JOBS WILL BE TERMINATED BECAUSE OF PLANT REORGANIZATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED. NOW YOU CAN GO ON WITH YOUR WORK


WELL, THEY CLOSED DOWN A SECTION JUST TEN DAYS AGO, AND SIXTY PEOPLE LOST THEIR JOBS-- SOON THERE'LL BE NO ONE LEFT.
THIS IS CRAZY ! DON'T GET IT ..
HEY, WHAT ARE WE BUILDING, ANYWAY?
THIS WILL BE THE TENTH TIME I'VE LOST MY JOB.. HOW'LL I FIND ANOTHER?
SILENCE!!! BACK TO WORK!!!

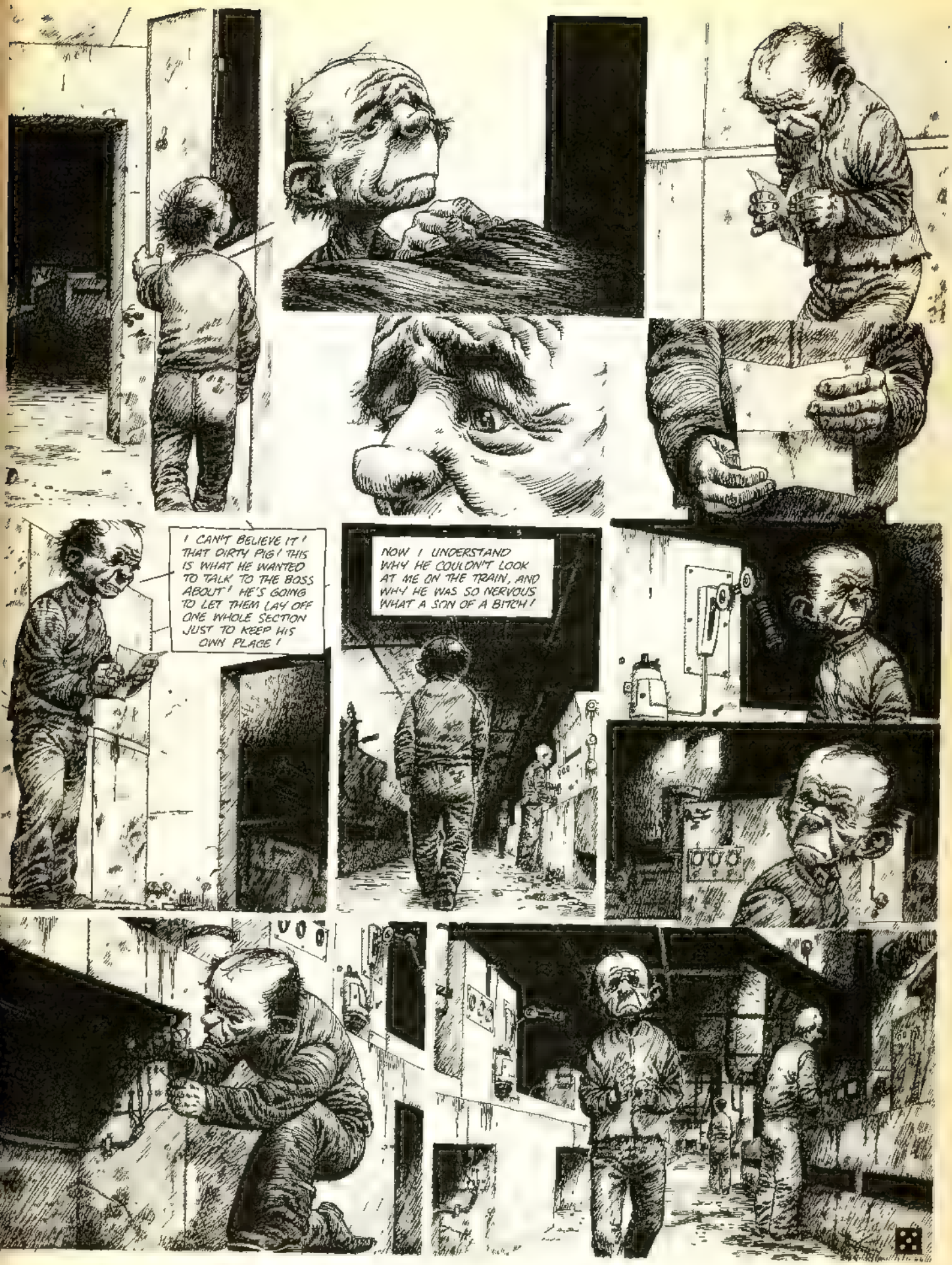

TO BE BACK ON THE STREETS AGAIN, LOOKING FOR FOOD IN THE GARBAGE...UNTIL THEY DECIDE TO OPEN ANOTHER PLANT AND GIVE US OTHER JOBS
I HEAR THEY'RE SLOWING DOWN CONSTRUCTION

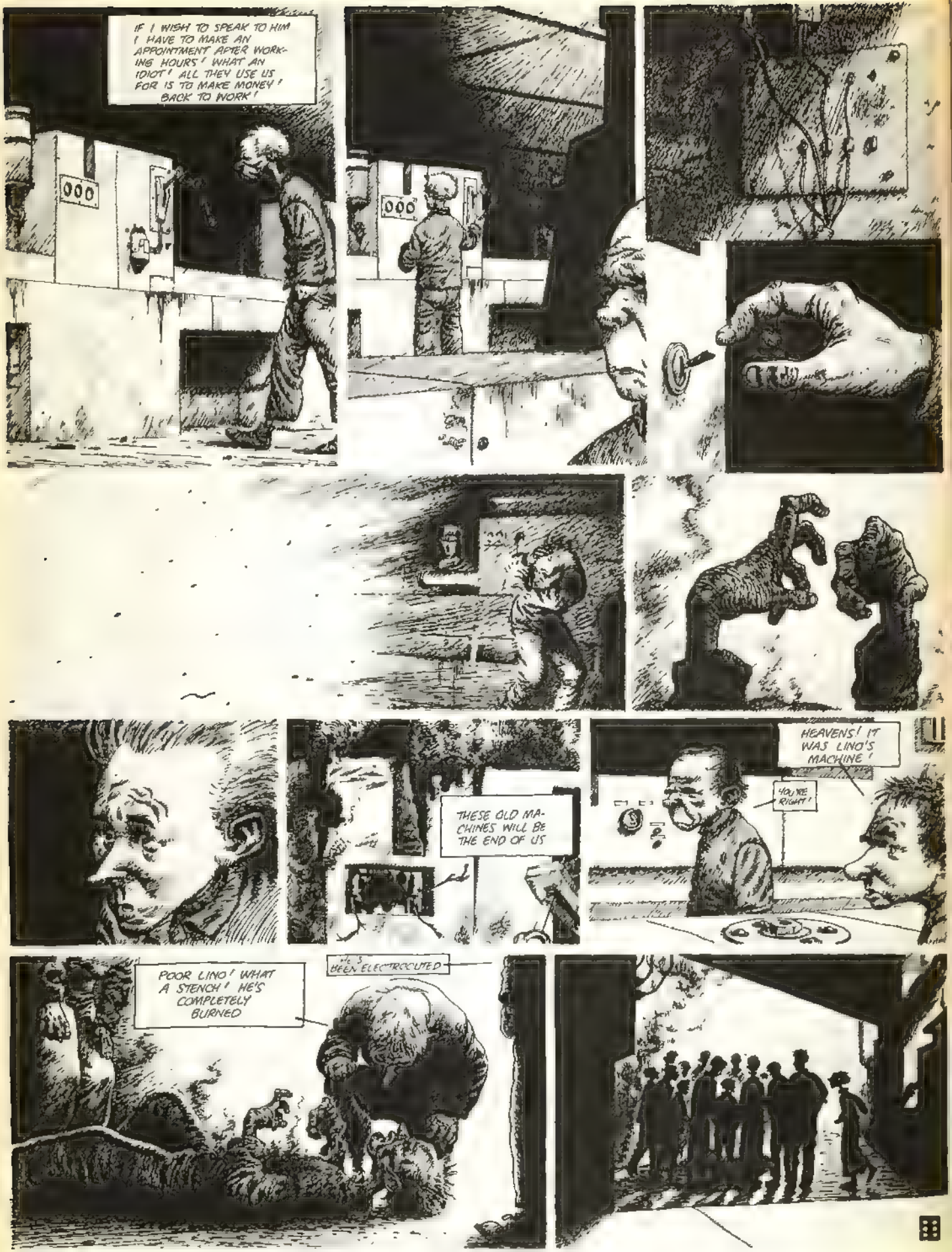
by Prado

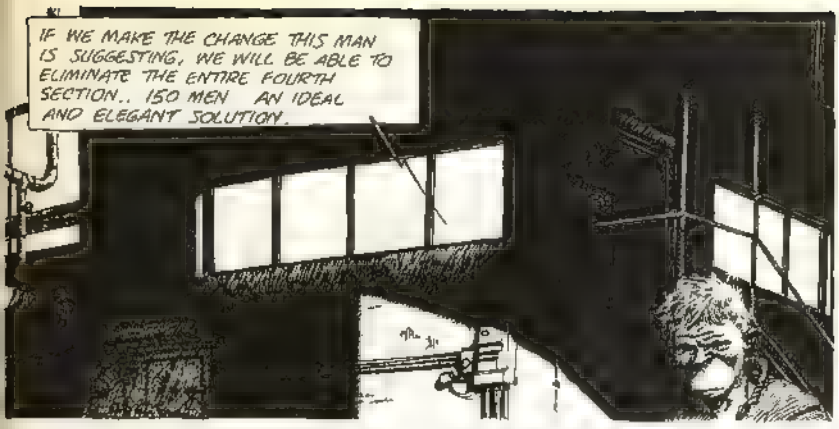
COME ON, LITTLE ONE, IT'S TIME FOR BED.
OKAY MOM .. 'NIGHT, DAD
LINO, AREN'T YOU COMING TO BED? AREN'T YOU TIRED?
NO, I'M WIDE AWAKE WHY DON'T YOU GO ON AHEAD.
DON'T DRINK ANYMORE COFFEE THAT'S ALL WE'VE LEFT FOR BREAKFAST FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK. OH! WE'RE OUT OF SUGAR, TOO
LINO, TURN OFF THE GAS THE COFFEE POT WILL EXPLODE

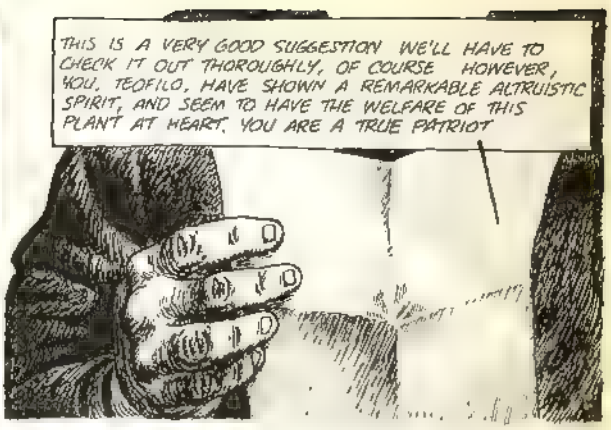

...IF, WHEN THEY REACH OUR SECTION WE CUT ALONG THESE LINES, SECTION 4, HERE & SCRIBBLE... SCRIBBLE & AND HERE WILL BE OBSOLETE... 150 MEN WILL BE LET GO BUT, I'M SURE AS MANY AS THEY WANT TO LAY OFF WHEN THE PLANT REORGANIZES
AND I'LL KEEP MY PLACE, AND MAYBE THEY'LL GIVE ME A BETTER POSITION, BECAUSE OF MY BRIGHT IDEA MAYBE IN ONE OF THE OFFICES, AS A CLERK... I WONDER IF THAT WILL BE POSSIBLE
BUT. SECTION 4 IS TED'S SECTION! GOOD GRIEF! THEY'LL LAY HIM OFF ONCE AGAIN... BACK TO THE STREETS, WITH THE RATS AND GARBAGE... I CAN'T
DOOOOOOOO
YOU DIDN'T SLEEP ALL NIGHT? YOU'LL FALL ASLEEP ON YOUR JOB! WHAT'S THE MATTER, LINO?

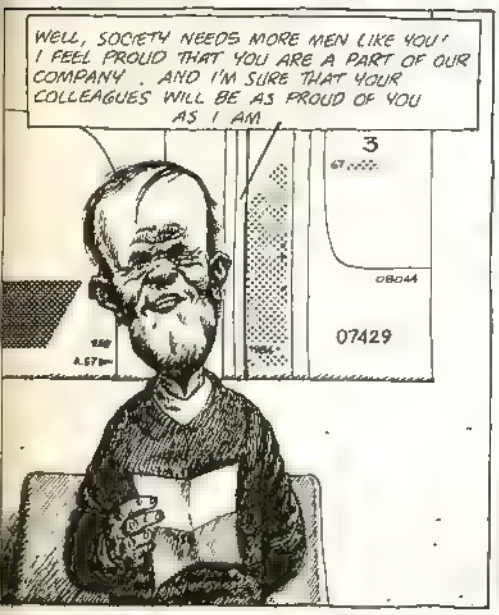
HEY LINO... YOU HAVEN'T SAID A WORD... WHAT'S THE MATTER? LINO?
WHAT? NO NOTHING
NOTHING
LINO, DIDN'T YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO THE BOSS? I THINK HE'S HERE NOW.
THERE HE IS, GOD, I'M SO NERVOUS! I'M TREMBLING! AND WHAT IF THEY THINK IT'S A BAD IDEA? AND WHAT IF MY CO-WORKERS FIND OUT IT'S MINE? SHIT! I JUST HAVE TO DO IT!!

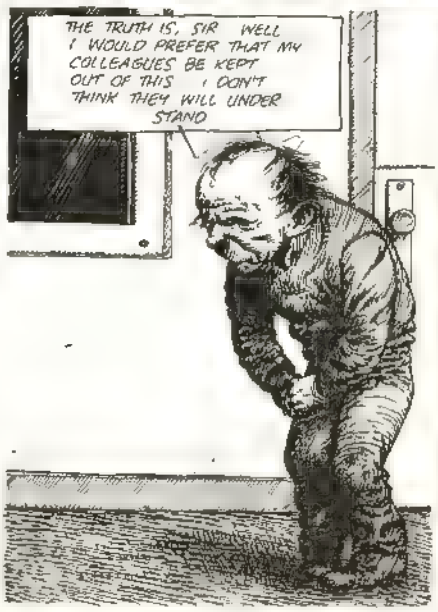

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THAT DIRTY PIG! THIS IS WHAT HE WANTED TO TALK TO THE BOSS ABOUT! HE'S GOING TO LET THEM LAY OFF ONE WHOLE SECTION JUST TO KEEP HIS OWN PLACE!
NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY HE COULDN'T LOOK AT ME ON THE TRAIN, AND WHY HE WAS SO NERVOUS WHAT A SON OF A BITCH!

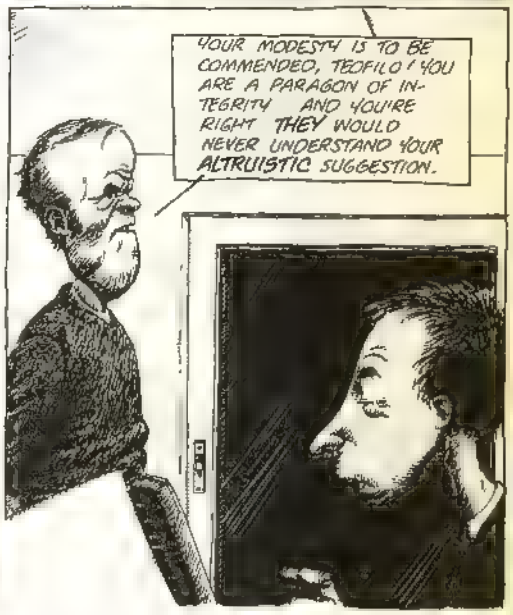

IF I WISH TO SPEAK TO HIM I HAVE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AFTER WORKING HOURS! WHAT AN IDIOT! ALL THEY USE US FOR IS TO MAKE MONEY! BACK TO WORK!
000
000
THESE OLD MACHINES WILL BE THE END OF US
HEAVENS! IT WAS LINO'S MACHINE!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
POOR LINO! WHAT A STENCH! HE'S COMPLETELY BURNED
HE'S BEEN ELECTROCUTED

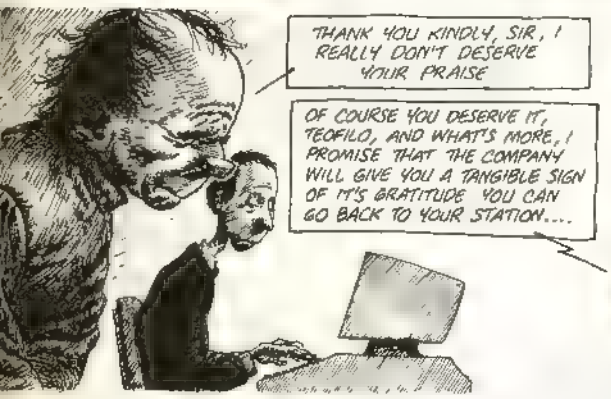

IF WE MAKE THE CHANGE THIS MAN IS SUGGESTING, WE WILL BE ABLE TO ELIMINATE THE ENTIRE FOURTH SECTION.. 150 MEN AN IDEAL AND ELEGANT SOLUTION.


THIS IS A VERY GOOD SUGGESTION WE'LL HAVE TO CHECK IT OUT THOROUGHLY, OF COURSE HOWEVER, YOU, TEOFILO, HAVE SHOWN A REMARKABLE ALTRUISTIC SPIRIT, AND SEEM TO HAVE THE WELFARE OF THIS PLANT AT HEART. YOU ARE A TRUE PATRIOT

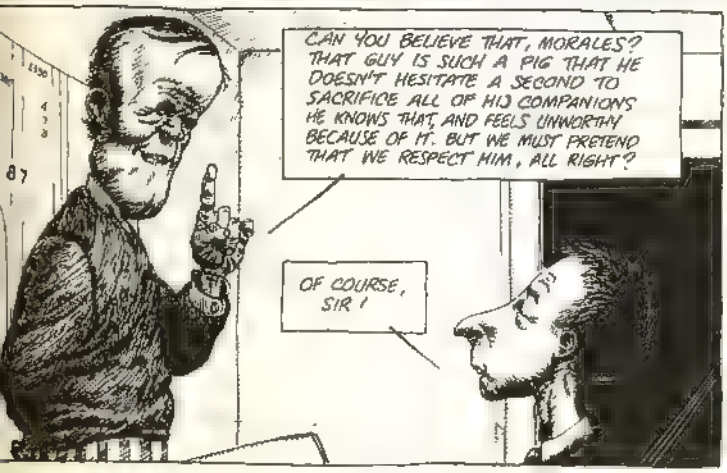

WELL, SOCIETY NEEDS MORE MEN LIKE YOU! I FEEL PROUD THAT YOU ARE A PART OF OUR COMPANY . AND I'M SURE THAT YOUR COLLEAGUES WILL BE AS PROUD OF YOU AS I AM
3
07429

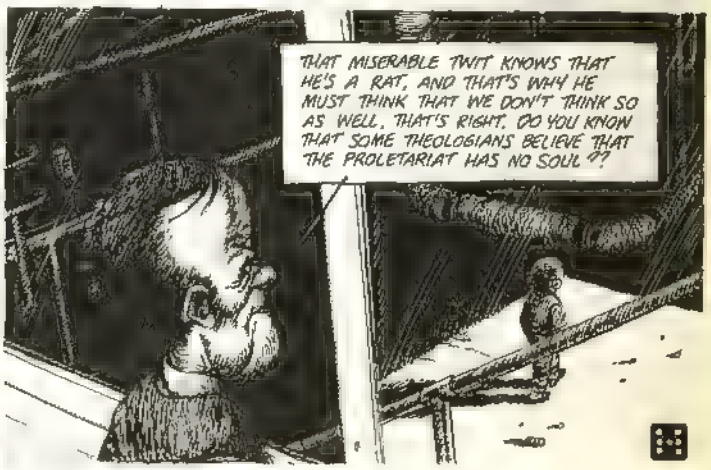

THE TRUTH IS, SIR WELL I WOULD PREFER THAT MY COLLEAGUES BE KEPT OUT OF THIS . I DON'T THINK THEY WILL UNDER STAND


YOUR MODESTY IS TO BE COMMENDED, TEOFILO! YOU ARE A PARAGON OF INTEGRITY AND YOU'RE RIGHT THEY WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND YOUR ALTRUISTIC SUGGESTION.


THANK YOU KINDLY, SIR, I REALLY DON'T DESERVE YOUR PRAISE
OF COURSE YOU DESERVE IT, TEOFILO, AND WHAT'S MORE, I PROMISE THAT THE COMPANY WILL GIVE YOU A TANGIBLE SIGN OF IT'S GRATITUDE YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR STATION....

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE COMPANY WILL NOT FAIL TO SHOW YOU IT'S GRATITUDE
THANK YOU, SIR THANK YOU KINDLY . HAVE A GOOD DAY


CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT, MORALES? THAT GUY IS SUCH A PIG THAT HE DOESN'T HESITATE A SECOND TO SACRIFICE ALL OF HIS COMPANIONS HE KNOWS THAT, AND FEELS UNWORTHY BECAUSE OF IT. BUT WE MUST PRETEND THAT WE RESPECT HIM, ALL RIGHT?
OF COURSE, SIR!


THAT MISERABLE TWIT KNOWS THAT HE'S A RAT, AND THAT'S WHY HE MUST THINK THAT WE DON'T THINK SO AS WELL. THAT'S RIGHT. DO YOU KNOW THAT SOME THEOLOGIANS BELIEVE THAT THE PROLETARIAT HAS NO SOUL??

TO ALL THE EX-WORKERS OF THE FOURTH SECTION. PLEASE COME BY THE ENTRANCE BOOTH TO PICK UP YOUR PINK SLIPS. HURRY!
COME ON, GUYS! IT'S OUR TURN!
WHAT!? THE WHOLE SECTION?
I'D BETTER GO ALSO. THEY WOULD THINK IT STRANGE IF I WERE THE ONLY ONE TO KEEP MY JOB. I'LL WAIT BY THE DOOR UNTIL EVERYONE HAS LEFT, AND THEN I'LL COME BACK IN.
TEOFILO MOURELO... YES, YES ... HERE'S YOUR SLIP, AND ANOTHER LITTLE ENVELOPE
FOR ME? THERE MUST BE A MISTAKE! THIS IS INCREDIBLE! ARE YOU SURE?
YES, MAN, YES!
A PLASTIC MEDAL? SHIT! IT COULD AT LEAST HAVE BEEN FOOD COUPONS... AND WHAT'S THIS NOTE? "THE COMPANY WOULD LIKE TO SHOW ITS GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SERVICES WITH
"... THIS FAITHFUL REPRODUCTION OF THE MEDAL OF LABOR AND WISHES YOU THE BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR FUTURE UNDERTAKINGS, OUTSIDE THIS ESTABLISHMENT."
THAT WAS A VERY IMPRESSIVE IDEA. A VERY CREATIVE ONE. CONGRATULATIONS! I WILL RECOMMEND THAT YOU BE GIVEN A POST AS DIRECTOR OF A MORE IMPORTANT FACTORY.
THANK YOU, SIR!
WHAT? I CAN'T GET IN? BUT I WASN'T LAID OFF, NOT SERIOUSLY. I MEAN HEY! CALL THE DIRECTOR! HE'LL EXPLAIN!
VIGIL
SORRY, NOT IN, BUT HIS SECRETARY PASSES ON THIS MESSAGE: "IT'S A SHAME THAT YOUR FRIEND LINO DIED SO SUDDENLY -- HE WAS TO BE PROMOTED TO LEVEL SIX, AND WOULD HAVE TAKEN YOU WITH HIM!"
VIGILAN
PIGS!
PUM

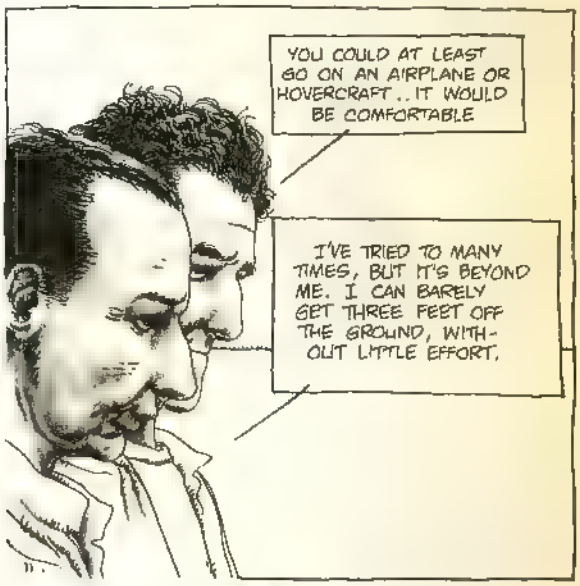
EXCERPT FROM THE DELPHIC ENCYCLOPEDIA

CODE 37A588 ATOMIC ERA 1945-2100

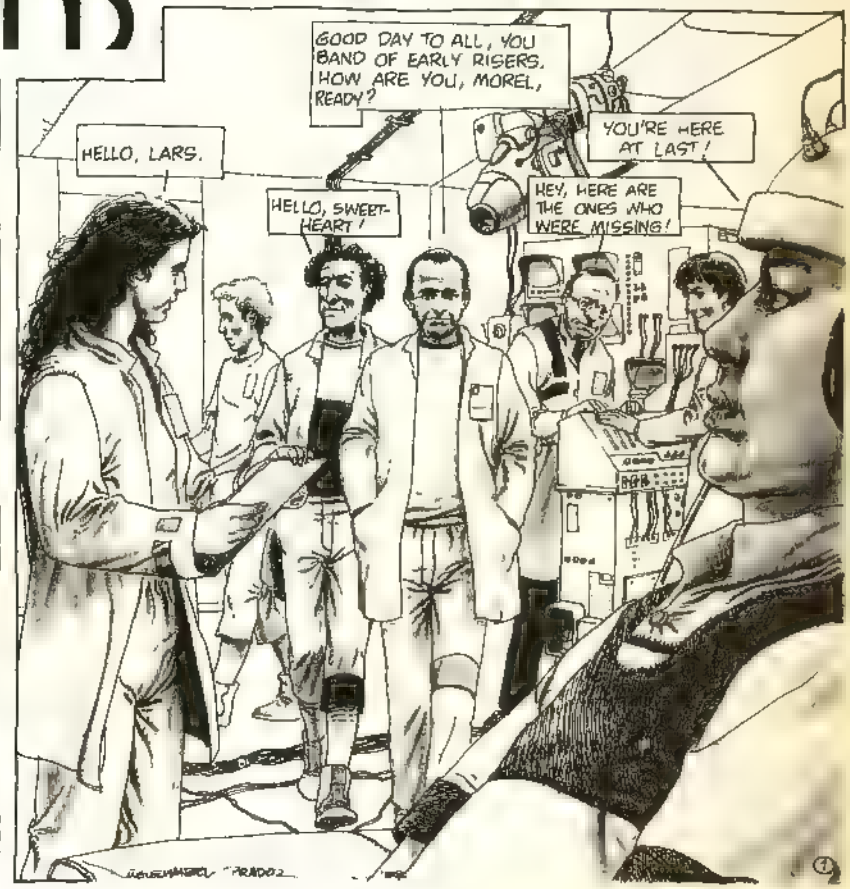
R 12 97.7 ROBOTICS · SCIENCE WHICH STUDIES HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED MACHINES AND HUMANOIDES DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE 20TH AND THE 21ST CENTURY. IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR COSMIC EXPANSION

R 13.02.3. ROBOT HISTORY: IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE 21ST CENTURY, CERTAIN TECHNIQUES FOR IMITATING ANIMAL ORGANISMS WERE DEVELOPED, WHICH LED TO THE CREATION OF ANDROIDS

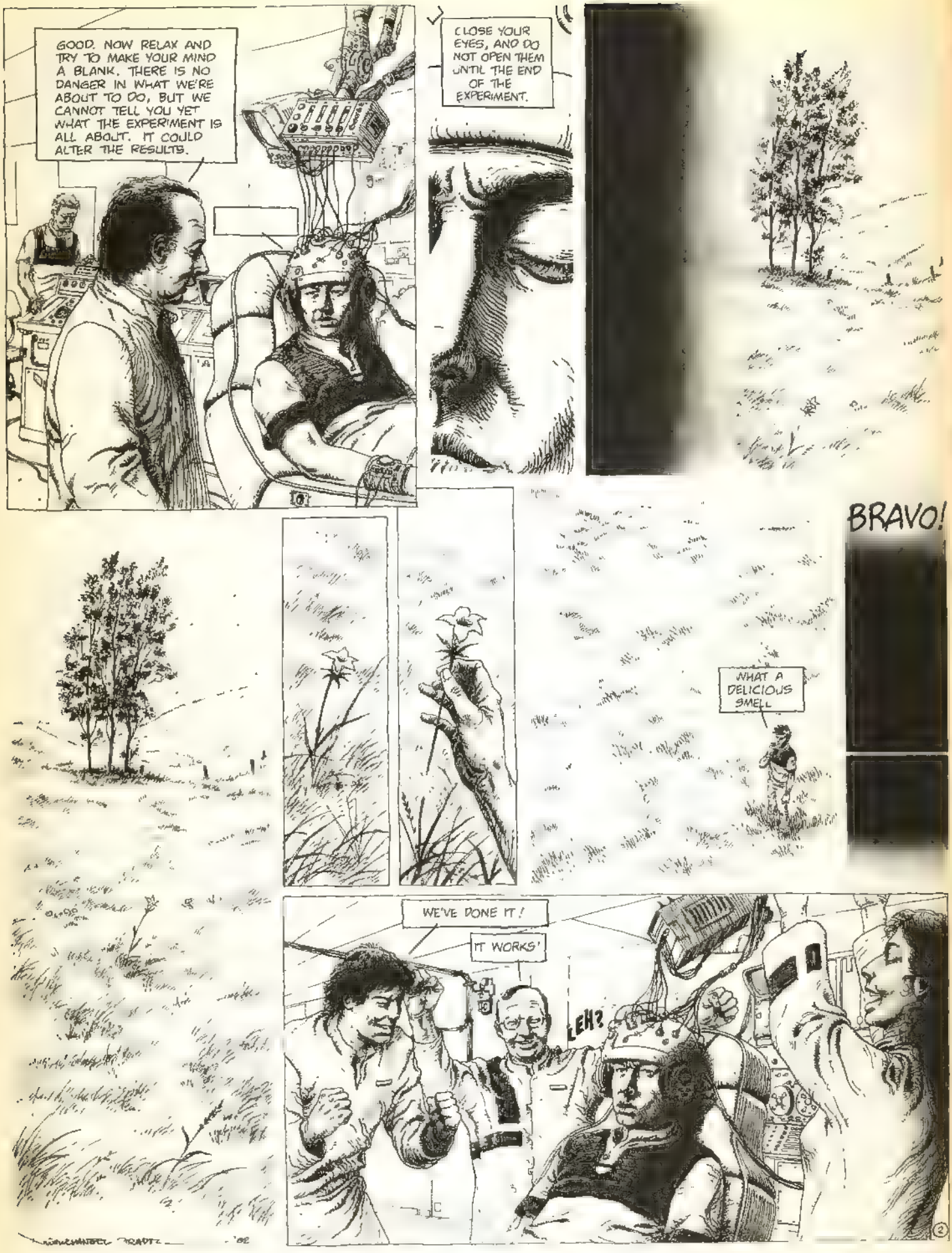
S 18.12.4. ARTIFICIAL SENSES. IN 2006 LARS OLSEN (SEE-NEUROBIOTICS) DEVELOPED A PROCEDURE WHICH COULD RECORD SENSATIONS AND TRANSMIT THEM TO THE BRAIN THIS WAS THE BASE ON WHICH ARTIFICIAL SENSES WERE DEVELOPED BY MEANS OF ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS


YOU COULD AT LEAST GO ON AN AIRPLANE OR HOVERCRAFT.. IT WOULD BE COMFORTABLE
I'VE TRIED TO MANY TIMES, BUT IT'S BEYOND ME. I CAN BARELY GET THREE FEET OFF THE GROUND, WITHOUT LITTLE EFFORT.

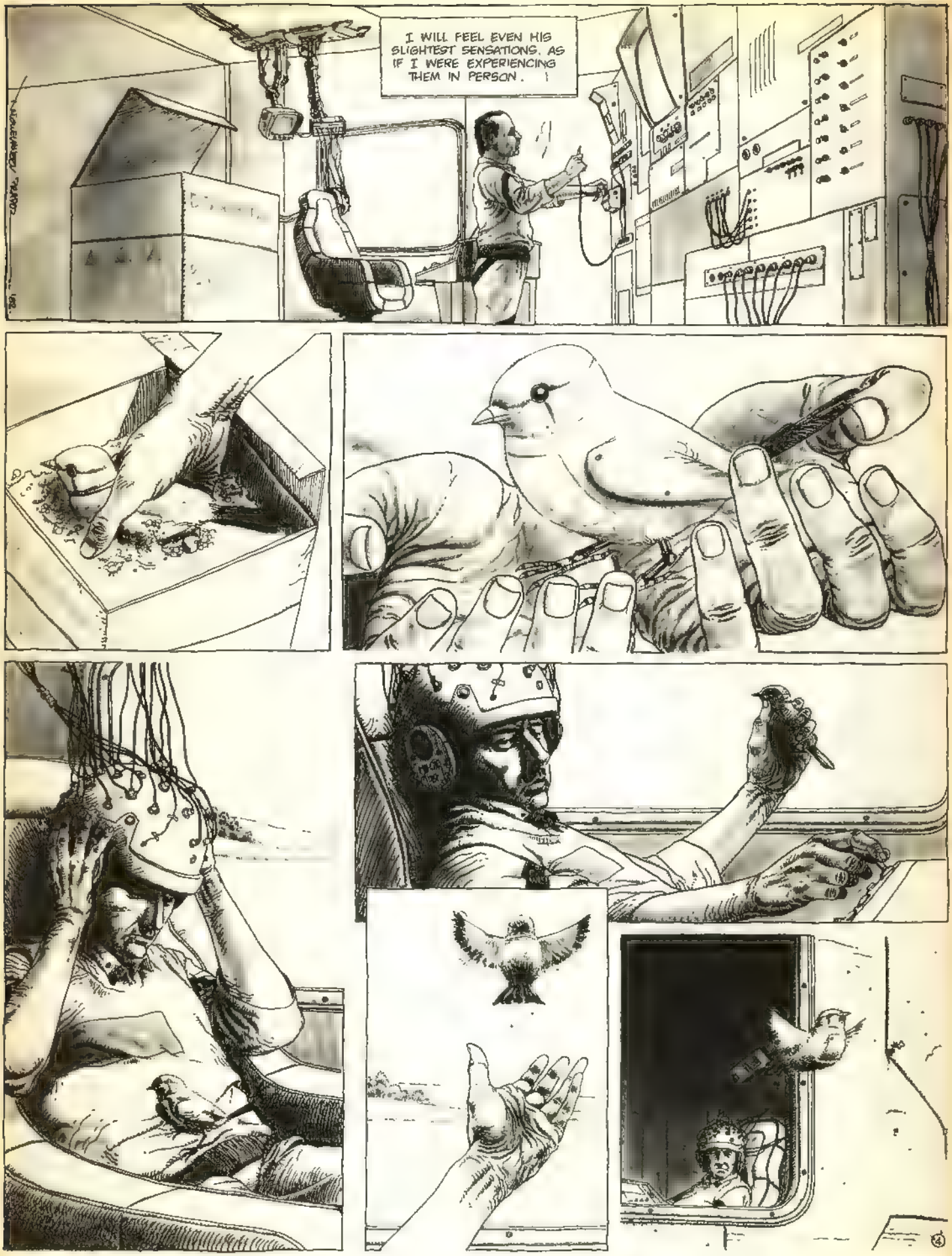
SENSATIONS

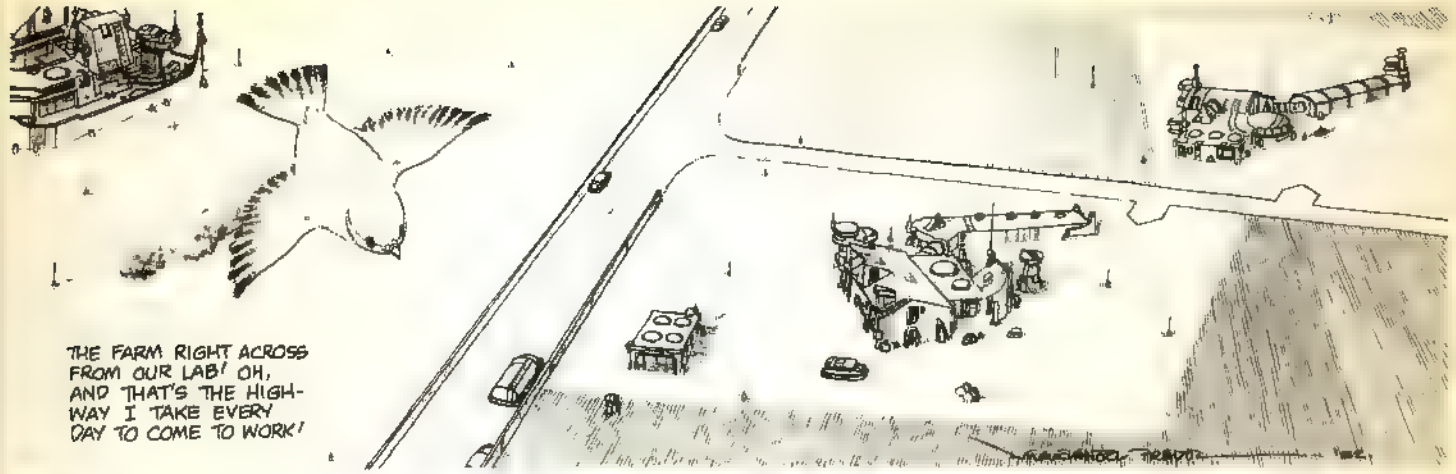

GOOD DAY TO ALL, YOU BAND OF EARLY RISERS. HOW ARE YOU, MOREL, READY?
HELLO, LARS.
YOU'RE HERE AT LAST!
HEY, HERE ARE THE ONES WHO WERE MISSING!
HELLO, SWEETHEART!
MIGUEL PRADO

BY MIGUEL A. PRADO


GOOD. NOW RELAX AND TRY TO MAKE YOUR MIND A BLANK. THERE IS NO DANGER IN WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO DO, BUT WE CANNOT TELL YOU YET WHAT THE EXPERIMENT IS ALL ABOUT. IT COULD ALTER THE RESULTS.
CLOSE YOUR EYES, AND DO NOT OPEN THEM UNTIL THE END OF THE EXPERIMENT.
BRAVO!
WHAT A DELICIOUS SMELL
WE'VE DONE IT!
IT WORKS!
EH?

DID YOU SUCCEED IN TRANSMITTING MATTER?
NO, MOREL. YOUR SENSES RECEIVED RECORDED SENSATIONS, A FILM WHICH YOUR BRAIN COULD NOT DISTINGUISH FROM REALITY
AT LAST!
OLSEN LARS
YOSHIO, THIS IS LARS DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
RIGHT AWAY, LARS.
YOSHIO AMAGATSU
Dpto- ROBOTICA
I HAVE A GREAT FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU!
I'M ALL EARS
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO DESIGN AND PUT TOGETHER A VERY SPECIAL ROBOT. THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL AND UNOFFICIAL
THE SPECS ARE ALL IN THIS CHIP
YES, IT CAN BE DONE. I SUPPOSE IT'S USELESS FOR ME TO ASK WHY THE HELL YOU NEED IT. IT WILL BE READY IN A MONTH.
THANKS THIS MEANS A LOT TO ME


I WILL FEEL EVEN HIS SLIGHTEST SENSATIONS, AS IF I WERE EXPERIENCING THEM IN PERSON.

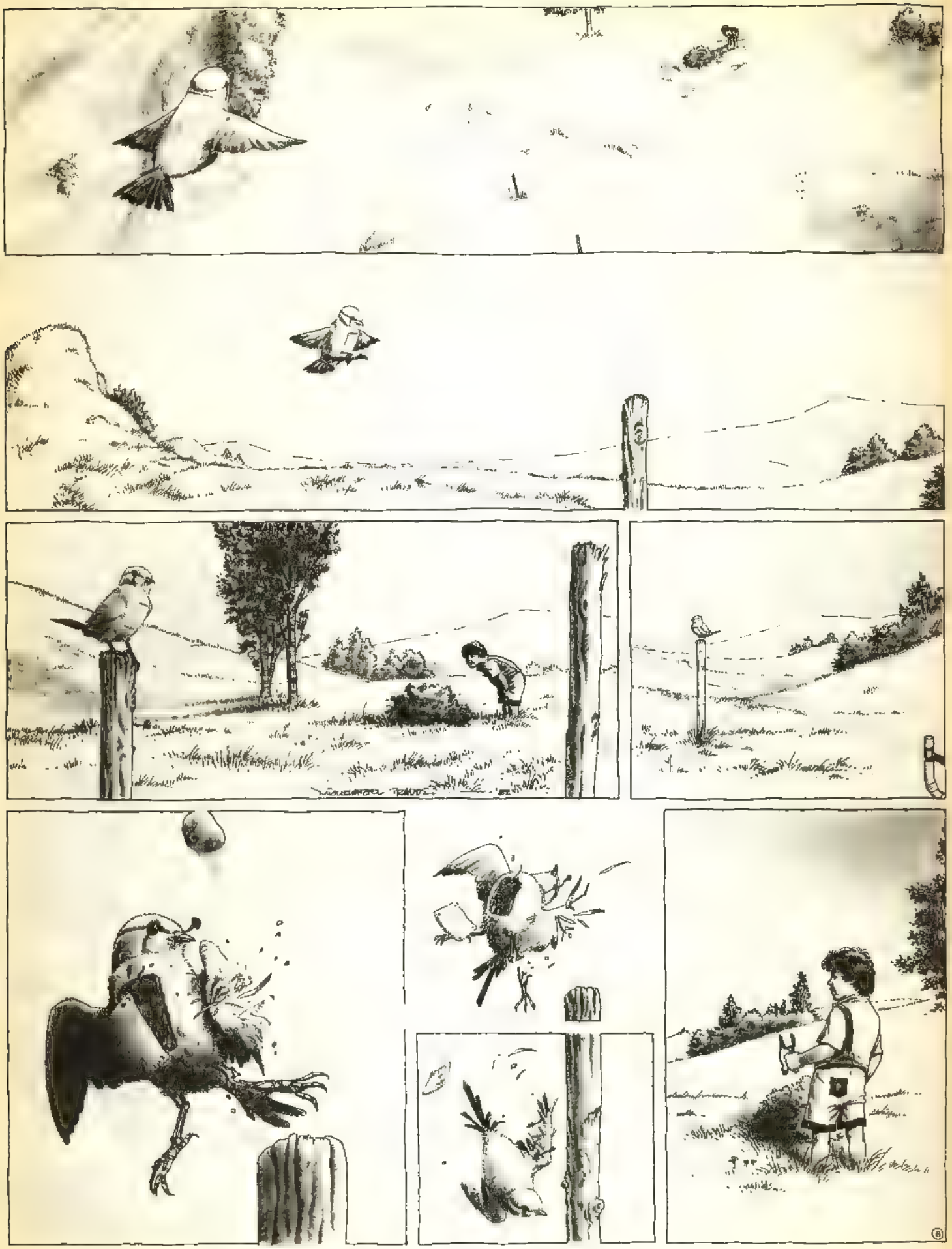

THE FARM RIGHT ACROSS FROM OUR LAB! OH, AND THAT'S THE HIGH-WAY I TAKE EVERY DAY TO COME TO WORK!

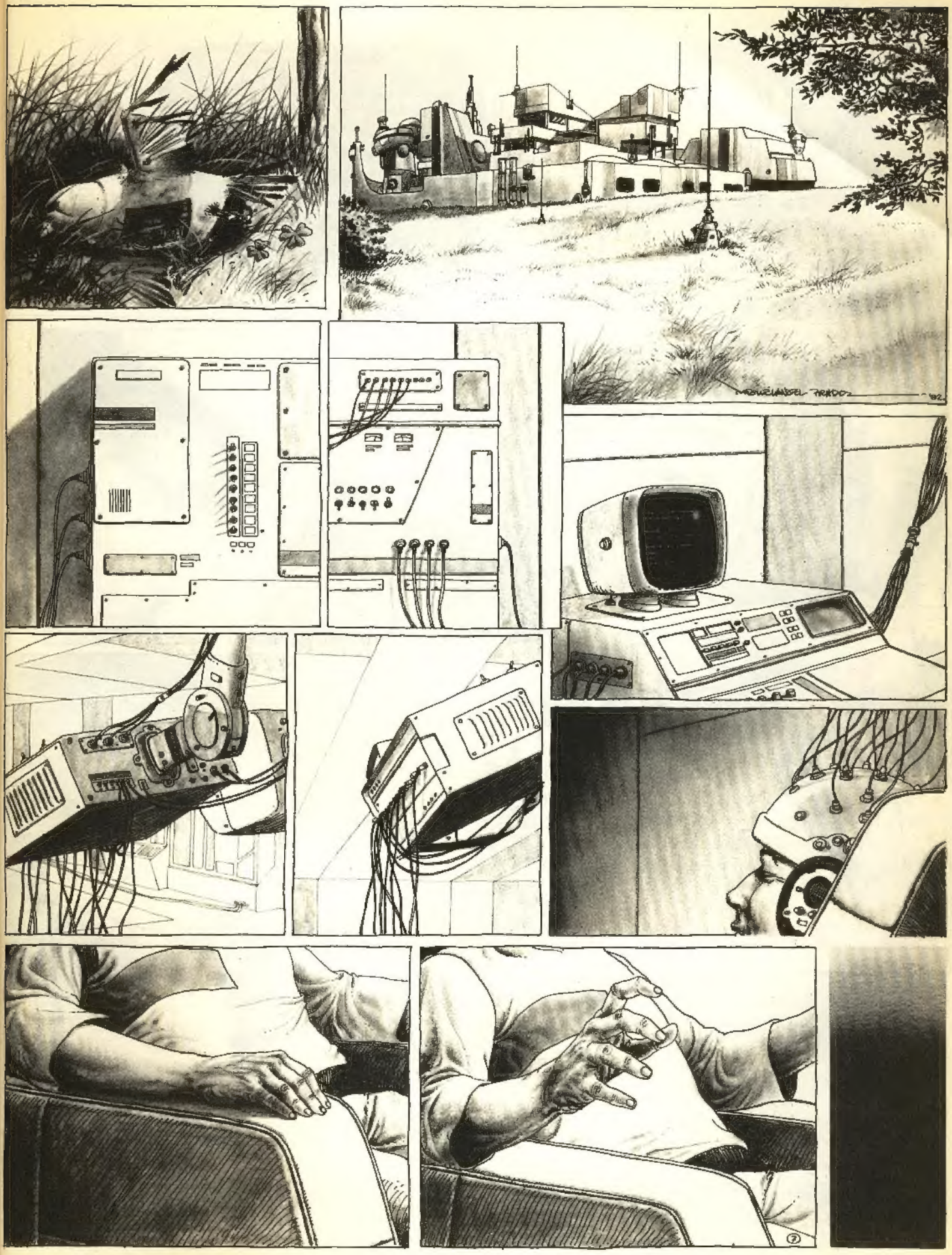
THE FIELDS IN THE NATURE PRESERVE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!

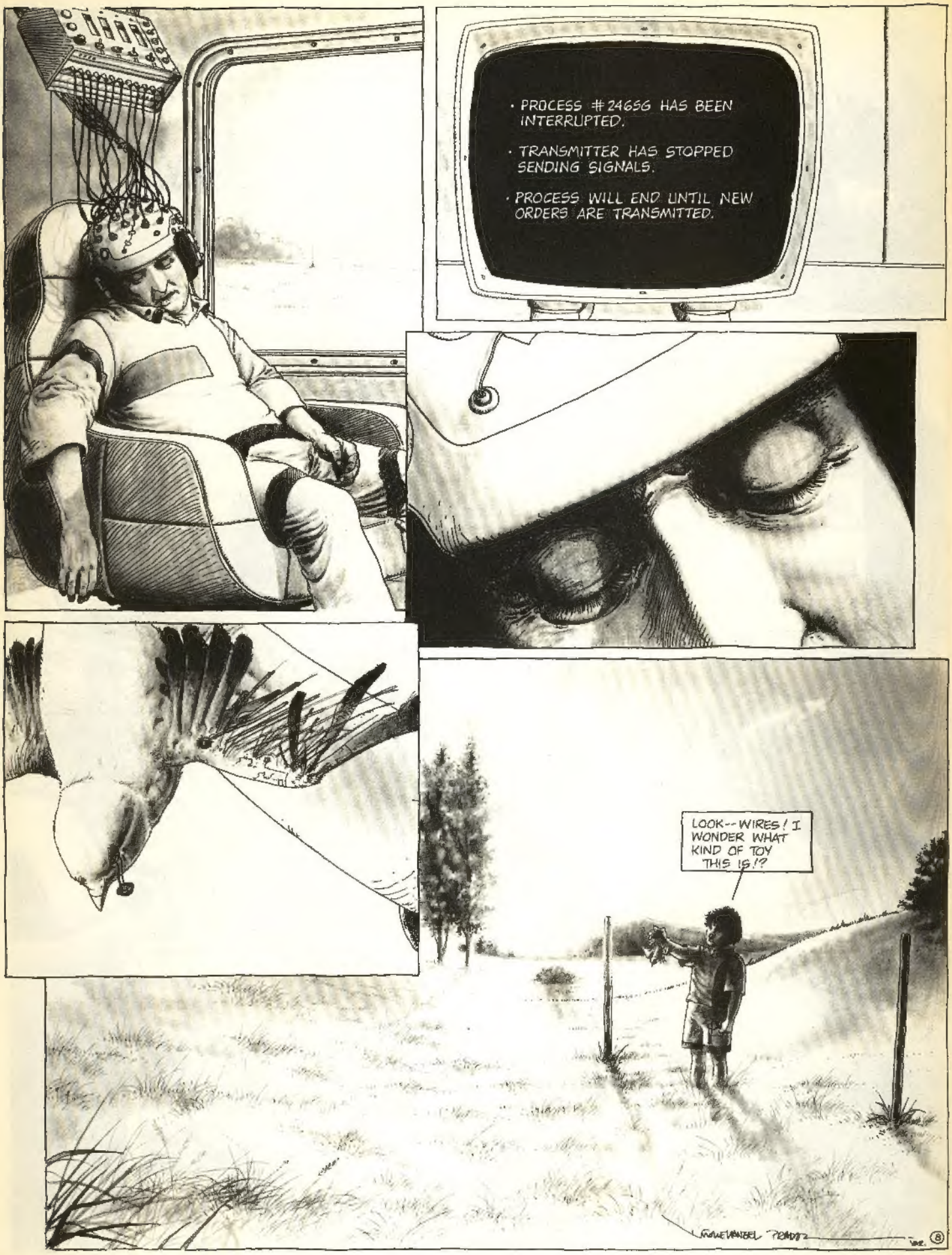
THE WOODS!

THE SUN!

THE SUN!
5






• PROCESS #2465G HAS BEEN INTERRUPTED.
• TRANSMITTER HAS STOPPED SENDING SIGNALS.
• PROCESS WILL END UNTIL NEW ORDERS ARE TRANSMITTED.
LOOK--WIRES! I WONDER WHAT KIND OF TOY THIS IS!?
8

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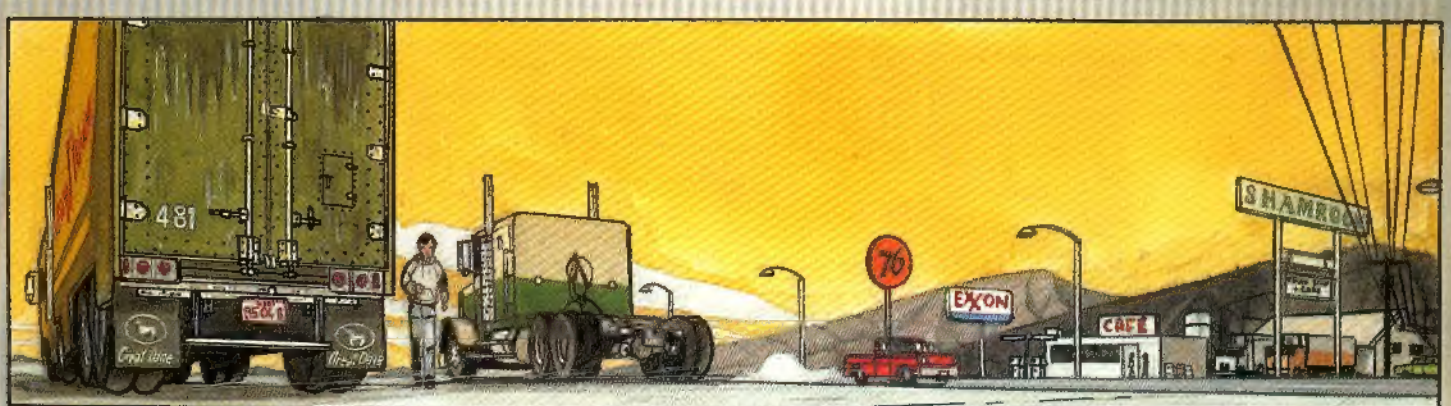

The Red Shirt—western film noir in color!